



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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#### OUR WINTER ISSUE.

THE Publisher is now booking advertisements for this important annual issue, which will be published on January 28, 1905. Circulars and price-lists will be received for insertion in it, and full particulars in respect to these can be obtained from the Publisher.

#### OUR DIARY.

COPIES of the C. & D. Diary for 1905 have this week been despatched to all whose subscriptions are in force. In every case carriage has been paid to destination. Occasionally it has happened in past years that carriage has been demanded on delivery. Should this occur again, we should be obliged if the subscriber will pay, get a receipt, and send it to us, when we will immediately refund the charge. Each copy of the Diary contains a useful information card, the upper part of which should be detached and affixed in a convenient place in the shop for reference when points on the Metric System and Stamped Medicines are wanted. The postcard portions should be filled up and returned to the Editor for participation in the ten-guinea competition.

### Summary.

THE DRUG CLUB comes under the poetic eye of our balladist (p. 988).

ALTERATIONS in Army and Navy Stores' prices for chemists' goods are noted on p. 970.

A SERIES of instructive dispensing notes by Mr. Harold Wyatt is printed on p. 993.

AN HISTORIC PHARMACY in Edinburgh is to be closed and the business transferred (p. 973).

AN ELECTRIC LAMP for the dark-room, which can be readily constructed, is described by Mr. J. A. Forret (p. 991).

OUR BANKRUPTCY REPORTS deal with the cases of James Grime, J. F. Saunders, J. Edmunds, and T. E. Malins (p. 980).

MRS. MILLER, Messrs. J. B. Brodribb, William Smith, and E. W. Jefferson are the new pharmaceutical annuitants (p. 975).

At the annual sales of castorum held in London on Wednesday much higher prices were paid for the deceased supplies (p. 993).

REINSCH'S TEST for arsenic is advocated by Messrs. Cowley and Catford, who give precise particulars as to how to work it (p. 992).

THE ADDRESS presented by visiting members of the Society of Chemical Industry to the American committee is reproduced on p. 1002.

A NEW PHARMACY BILL is advocated in the North of Ireland, for the purpose of making the transition from druggist to pharmacist easier (p. 991).

THE production of antitoxic serums was the subject of a lecture by Professor Hewlett, of King's College, to the Pharmaceutical Society this week (p. 975).

THE SECRET-MEDICINE TRADE is the subject of an analytical investigation by the "British Medical Journal" (p. 983), and the first series of formulæ deal with epileptic remedies. See p. 977.

THE Industrial Alcohol Inquiry is making progress despite an element in the Committee hostile to change. The representatives of the chemical and drug trades were examined this week (p. 970 and p. 985).

THE new procedure under the Patent Laws was discussed before the Society of Arts on Wednesday evening, and there was manifested difference of opinion as to the utility of the new search rules (p. 990).

SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE is decidedly improving. Reports by the Board of Trade correspondent at Port Elizabeth and the Cape Customs Controller are to this effect. We summarise them in an article on p. 984.

MR. JESSE BOOT'S BIOGRAPHY has appeared in the "Times" at a cost of 200l. That is "Xrayser's" playful way of saying that Boots, Cash Chemists, have a series of page advertisements in our contemporary (p. 983).

THE effect of dear sugar on the aerated-water trade was discussed by Mr. Idris this week (p. 982), and the President of the National Union of Mineral-water Manufacturers also gives striking facts about the matter (p. 987).

FOR "SODA CRYSTALS" a Tunbridge Wells oilman sold a mixture of sodium carbonate and sulphate. The Board of Trade have prosecuted him, and secured a conviction under the Merchandise-marks Act for false description (p. 978 and p. 984).

BUSINESS is slackening down as the end of the year approaches, and there have been no important movements in crude drugs. Cocaine, German camphor, camphor monobrom., camphoric acid, and saffron are dearer; American spermaceti and benzoin are firmer; and guaiacal carbonate, creosote carbonate, and senega are lower (p. 997).

#### WHERE TO STUDY.

THE FOLLOWING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS are advertising in this issue:

South London School of Pharmacy, 325 Kennington Road, S.E.

Metropolitan College of Pharmacy, 160 and 162 Kennington Park Road, S.E.

London College of Chemistry, 323 Clapham Road, S.W.

Manchester College, 225A and 227A Oxford Road, Manchester.

Northern College of Pharmacy, 100 and 102 Burlington Street, Manchester.

Burlington Correspondence College, 3 Crescent Grove, Clapham Common, S.W.

West of Scotland College of Pharmacy, 157 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

Leeds College of Pharmacy, Clarendon Road, Leeds.

## English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Brevities.

The British Medical Association will meet in Leicester on July 26, 1905.

The Salford Town Council have accepted the tender of Messrs. Wingfield & Co. for the supply of druggists' sundries.

At Liverpool Assizes on December 10, Mrs. Burndred, charged with having administered arsenic to her foster-child, was found not guilty and was discharged.

The Metropolitan Asylums Board is spending 400*l.* on a cold-storage apartment for diphtheria antitoxin. Dr. Cartwright Wood says it will soon pay for itself in serum saved.

At Chelmsford Bankruptcy Court on December 7, William Fennell, analyst, of Loft Hall, Orsett, appeared for public examination. The gross liabilities were stated at 538*l.* and the assets *nil*.

The ground floor of the premises of Messrs. W. Jones & Co., chemists, 134 Southampton Row, W.C., were damaged by a gas-explosion that occurred in the neighbouring premises on December 14.

The Public Health Department of the City Corporation have decided to keep a register of such hairdressers as are willing to be bound by the regulations recently drawn up (see *C. & D.*, December 3, page 910).

At the hearing of a royal arms action in the City of London Court this week it was explained that anyone may use the royal arms, but the use of the words "by appointment" or "by special appointment" is not allowed.

Mr. E. J. Appleby, pharmaceutical chemist, Bath; Mr. Hugh Barratt, chemical-manufacturer, Middleton; and Mr. C. W. Addingley, liquorice-refiner, Pontefract, have been elected to fill casual vacancies on their respective Town Councils.

At Tiverton on December 14 the licence for the sale of medicated wines held by the late Mr. Joseph Munday, chemist and druggist, of Fore Street, Tiverton, was temporarily transferred to Mr. H. E. Hatt, of Dorchester, who has taken over the business.

The Postmaster-General notifies that a warrant has been made by the Treasury under which, on and from January 1 next, embossed or impressed stamps cut out of or otherwise detached from an envelope, postcard, or other postal form may be used in payment of postage.

The Public Health Committee of Camberwell is happy, having got over eighty local authorities to agree that it would be a good thing to limit the use of boric acid in milk. The next step will be to ask the President of the Local Government Board to receive a deputation about the matter.

In the City of London Court, on Wednesday, Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., gave judgment in the action (mentioned in the columns of the *C. & D.* last week) brought by Mr. Arthur Ling, F.I.C., F.C.S., against Mr. W. A. Wayland, F.C.S., for the sum of 60*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* for making certain analyses. His Honour gave judgment for 35*l.*, with costs.

Among the instances of cruelty mentioned by the wife of Mr. Clement Gray, chemist and druggist, Brighton, who obtained a separation order on Wednesday, was the emptying of a bottle of chloroform over her, rendering her unconscious. The Magistrates allowed Mrs. Gray 1*l.* a week and the custody of the two children.

At Lincoln on December 13, Albert Goodman was fined 40*s.*, including costs, for stealing 4 gals. of cotton oil and two tin bottles, value 14*s.*, from a cellar belonging to Messrs. Battle, Son & Maltby, chemists. Goodman was further charged with stealing between September 12 and December 12 eight tin bottles, 2 gals. of paraffin oil,  $\frac{1}{2}$  gal. of weed-killer, a quart of linseed oil, nine brushes, three bars of soap, sixteen tablets of soap, eight tins of Swiss milk, one bottle of Cond's fluid, one box of cigars, one bottle of "Tatcho," and a number of other commodities, of the total value of 4*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*, also the property of Messrs. Battle, Son & Maltby, but, owing to Mr. Battle's appeal, the Magistrates decided not to send him to prison, but to bind prisoner over under the First Offenders Act.

### [Store-prices.]

The alterations in prices in the circular of the Army and Navy Stores for December include the following:

Almond oil, 7*d.* per 4-oz. bot., 1*s.* per 8-oz. bot.; veronal tablets, 4*s.* 8½*d.* and 9*s.* 4½*d.*; citric acid, 1*s.* 4*d.* per lb.; essence of peppermint, 5*d.* and 9½*d.* per bot.; methylated spirit, 9*d.* per quart, 2*s.* 4*d.* per gal.; best Florentine orris-root, 8*d.* per lb., powdered 10*d.* per lb.; saffron, 4½*d.* per drachm, 2*s.* 10*d.* per oz.; spermaceti, 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb., powdered 2*s.* 2*d.* per lb., ointment, 5½*d.* per pot; Bergmann's chlorate-of-potash tooth-cream, 6*d.* per tube; lavender-flowers, 8*d.* per lb.; Renaud's Moonflower perfume, 5*s.* and 9*s.* 6*d.* per bot., sachet 1*s.* 3*d.* in packets; Zenobia sweet-pea blossom perfume, 2*s.* 2*d.*, 3*s.*, 4*s.* 3*d.*, and 9*s.* per bot., sachets 10½*d.* each; Carneta perfume 4*s.* 8*d.* per bot.

A large assortment of artificial perfumed flower-sprays, silver-capped toilet and smelling bottles, and perfume-sprays for Christmas presents are illustrated.

### Industrial Alcohol Inquiry.

A meeting of the Committee appointed to inquire into the use of duty-free spirit for industrial purposes was held at Somerset House on December 13. The members present were Sir H. W. Primrose, K.C.B., C.S.I. (Chairman), Sir William Helland, M.P., Sir William Crookes, Dr. T. E. Thorpe, C.B., Dr. W. Somerville, Mr. L. D. Nicholson, and Mr. T. Tyrer. The witnesses examined were those selected by the London Chamber of Commerce—viz., Mr. David Howard (Messrs. Howards & Sons, Ltd., Stratford), Mr. E. A. Webb (Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Bartholomew Close, E.C.), and Mr. J. C. Umney (Messrs. Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd., Southwark Street, S.E.). The Committee met again on Wednesday (Mr. Tyrer presiding during part of the proceedings), when the witnesses examined were Mr. Walter F. Reid, F.I.C., F.C.S. (also representing the London Chamber of Commerce in respect to explosives); Dr. J. T. Conroy (representing the United Alkali Co., Widnes), and Mr. J. W. Leitch (of Messrs. J. W. Leitch & Co., Milnsbridge, Huddersfield).

### Xmas Holidays and Stocktaking.

In addition to the firms mentioned last week (*C. & D.*, December 10, page 932) the following Christmas closing arrangements have been made:

*The Chemist and Druggist* offices, 42 Cannon Street, E.C., will be closed from Friday afternoon, December 23, to Tuesday morning, December 27.

*Burgoyne, Burdidges & Co.*, 12 and 16 Coleman Street, E.C., will close their offices and warehouses from Saturday, December 24, until Wednesday morning, December 28; and the warehouses will be closed on December 30 for stocktaking.

*C. R. Barker, Stagg, & Morgan, Ltd.*, will close their office and warehouse on Monday and Tuesday in Christmas week.

*Hearon, Squire & Francis, Ltd.*, 33 and 40 Southwark Street, S.E., will close from December 24 until December 28.

*Lofthouse & Saltmer*, Hull, will be closed on Boxing Day, and practically closed (except for urgent requirements) on the last two days of the year for stocktaking.

*Manners & Hopkinson*, 66 Southwark Bridge Road, S.E., will be open for orders on Wednesday, December 28, but the rest of the year they will be closed for stocktaking.

*Parke Davis & Co.*, 111 Queen Victoria Street, E.C., will close from Saturday afternoon, December 24, until Wednesday, December 28.

*T. & H. Smith, Ltd.*, 22 City Road, E.C., will close on December 26 and 27.

*William Toogood*, Heddon Street, Regent Street, W., will close from 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 24, until Wednesday morning, December 28.

*Thos. Tyrer & Co., Ltd.*, Stratford, will close from December 24 until December 28.

*James Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd.*, Manchester, will close their warehouse and offices on Boxing Day, and on Monday, January 2, 1905, at one o'clock.

At Cambridge the following chemists announce that they will observe December 27 as a general holiday: Messrs. A. Sidney Campkin & Son, Messrs. H. J. Parson & Son, and Mr. Arthur A. Deck.

### Liverpool Notes.

At the close of business on Monday evening, December 12, the Town Department staff of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool, presented one of their late colleagues, Mr. John Mulroy, with an electrocrucifix. Mr. O'Neill, who made the presentation, referred to the eighteen years' service of Mr. Mulroy, and the good will which had existed between them, and which he hoped would continue in the future.



Mr. Walter Long, President of the Local Government Board, opened the Liverpool University School of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery on Tuesday, December 13. In the course of his speech he said that at Liverpool, for the first time in the country, a University opens its arms to veterinary students, who will have the advantage of special training amid surroundings which must make for the advancement of their general knowledge and usefulness.

About sixty gentlemen assembled at the Exchange Station Hotel on Tuesday, by invitation of Sir Alfred Jones, to meet Professor Boyce, Dr. Arthur Evans, and Dr. H. H. Clarke, who have sailed for West Africa since as the thirteenth scientific research expedition of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. The guests included Mr. Walter Long, President of the Local Government Board, who spoke of brilliant and unselfish services of men like Professor Boyce and his colleagues to humanity.

On Friday, December 9, a meeting was held at the Exchange Station Hotel for the purpose of hearing a statement by Professor Boyce, F.R.S., in regard to the formation of a Commercial Products Investigation Bureau in Liverpool. Among others present were Mr. J. J. Evans, Mr. A. C. Abraham, and Mr. Harold Wyatt. The object of Professor Boyce's proposal is to correlate the various scientific forces in the city in order to utilise them for commercial advancement, and also to secure specimens of products of commercial interest and to illustrate the methods of producing the same. The economic chemistry section of the bureau will include fertilisers and manures, foodstuffs, fermentation-products, bleaching and dyeing materials, disinfectants, essential oils, drugs, etc. It was agreed to refer the matter to the Council of the Chamber of Commerce for consideration and report.

#### Early-closing.

The delegates from the various tradesmen's organisations in Burnley (on which the Chemists' Association and all kindred associations were represented) have decided to petition the Town Council to put the following hours for closing in force in Burnley generally: Monday, 8.30 p.m.; Tuesday, 1 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 p.m.; except that the following be optional: Thursday before Good Friday, Saturday before Easter Sunday, Thursday and Friday before the Burnley Fair holidays, Friday before the September holiday, and the two weekdays immediately preceding Christmas day. The Sunday Closing Bill promoted by Lord Avebury was strongly supported by the delegates.

#### "A Test-case."

Mr. W. James Leggett, Hon. General Secretary of the Patent-medicine Vendors' and Drug Stores' Association, has written the following letter to the "Bradford Daily Telegraph":

It appears to have been reported that the proceedings against chemists instituted by our president, Mr. Walter Huntrods, of Leeds, on behalf of our Association, are regarded to be in the nature of "a test-case," which, to say the least, is very misleading, as there is no test-case suggested or necessary, as the section with reference to Schedule A is perfectly clear, thoroughly understood, and well known to both registered and unregistered chemists—to wit, for selling to a person unknown, and further not registering the sale in the poisons-book kept for that purpose.

#### Birmingham Notes.

Mr. Evans has sold his business to Mr. Russell, and Messrs. Turley's business has passed into the hands of Mr. R. H. Clarke.

Mr. Thompson has made an important series of alterations in his shop at Sparkbrook, and thereby obtained a most effective-looking place of business.

To a Lord Mayor's Relief Fund for the unemployed pharmacy has contributed well, among the donors being Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay, Ltd., Blackwell, Hayes & Co., and P. Harris & Co.

It is proposed to have a floral *fête* on municipal lines in Birmingham, much in the same way as at Shrewsbury, the promoters being the Edgbaston Botanical Gardens Curator and others interested in botany. Cannon Hill Park is suggested as the site.

Mr. Harold Deane, B.Sc., is at present the director of the chemical and other laboratories of Messrs. P. Harris

& Co., Edmund Street, Birmingham, and is often seen at the local Association's meetings, at one of which he is to read a paper early in the coming year.

Dr. Windle, F.R.S., late Dean of the Medical Faculty of Birmingham University, was entertained to dinner last week by his past colleagues on the occasion of his leaving to take up the post of President of the Queen's College, Cork.

Mr. F. H. Prosser, chemist, 112 Spring Hill, has undertaken to allow his establishment to be a place for the distribution of relief and work in connection with the Lord Mayor's Relief Fund.

Sir E. M. Nelson, of gelatin fame, whose works are at Emscote, Warwick, was defendant in a trust funds litigation in the Chancery Division, before Mr. Justice Joyce, on Friday last. It was stated that the business profits averaged 24,854/ a year from 1882 to 1887 and 28,000/ a year since.

Mr. Marshall Freeman was counsel for the defence in an action at Birmingham County Court on Tuesday, in which a tradesman was sued by a builder for extra work in laying drains beyond the terms of his contract. The point at issue, raised by counsel, was whether the defendant was the proper person to be sued for the cost of a new sewer from the front of his premises to the street main, which, Mr. Freeman contended, it was the business of the Corporation to provide. In the end Judge Whitehorne non-suited the plaintiff and entered judgment for defendant, with costs.

#### The Repetition of Prescriptions.

An inquest was held at Hammersmith, on December 12, on the body of a commercial traveller named Atwell, who died from an overdose of chloral. In the course of the evidence it was stated that deceased knew he could not live beyond Christmas, and although his usual draught contained 12½ grains of chloral, he had taken at least 60 grains. It transpired that deceased had the draught made up in 4-oz. bottles from an old prescription. A juryman asked if such mixture should not be labelled "Poison." The Coroner (Mr. Drew) said it being a doctor's prescription there was no necessity to label it. The danger was in the indiscriminate use of old prescriptions. Eventually the jury, in returning a verdict of death from misadventure, expressed the opinion that prescriptions containing dangerous drugs should not be available for an indefinite time, but should become obsolete unless the doctor who originally wrote them initialled them again.

#### Sheffield Notes.

The Sheffield Chemists' Football Club played their first real match on Thursday, December 8, the team consisting of Messrs. Birkbeck, Clarke, McBride, Richards, Parratt, Simpson, Oswald (captain), Preston, Stather, Roe, and Cole. Mr. J. T. Appleton filled the onerous position of referee, but was able to be present at the smoking-concert in the evening. Notwithstanding his presence the pharmacists lost by four goals to *nil*, which renders it superfluous to say that the opposing team was a very strong one.

The annual report of the Sheffield Royal Hospital, just issued, shows that twenty-four poisoning-cases were admitted during the year, and also that twenty-one cases were treated in the casualty list. Of the in-patients there was 1 case of hydrochloric, 2 each of ammonia and alcohol, 6 lead, 4 carbolic, 5 opium, and the remaining 4 ptomaines, the only death being one of the opium cases. The amount expended on drugs during the year was 743/ 12s. 10d., and the number of prescriptions dispensed 77,965. The number of patients treated in all departments reached the total of 26,041.

The annual report and transactions of the Sheffield Microscopical Society has just been issued by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. John Austen, pharmaceutical chemist. The Society continues to receive the support of local pharmacists to a considerable degree, Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme being a Vice-President and an honorary member, and the list of members including some ten or a dozen other pharmacists. The report contains a portrait and sketch of the career of the late Mr. Alfred H. Allen, a Past-President of the Society, and includes a useful synopsis of the several papers read during the past session.

The minutes presented by the Health Committee to the City Council on December 7 contained an interesting dissertation by the Town Clerk on the new Shop-hours Act. He expressed the opinion that the restrictions and conditions contained in the Act will render it of little service, and that it is unlikely that the Council will of their own motion seek to put the Act into operation in Sheffield. The proper course would be for persons desirous of promoting early closing to approach the Council, who would give full consideration to the appeal made to them, and, if thought necessary, take such steps as prescribed by the Act and the Home Office regulations.

#### Acquitted.

At West Riding Assizes on December 12, Samuel Winder, grocer, was indicted for the manslaughter of Mabel Grimes at Pudsey. Accused sold herbs as well as groceries, and it was alleged that he gave Grimes gelsemium in place of fullers' earth. The girl took an infusion, and died from irritant poisoning. After reading the depositions the Judge said there might have been some negligence, but he did not think there was sufficient to make it criminal. The prosecution was thereupon withdrawn, and Winder was acquitted.

#### The Northampton Institute.

The annual distribution of prizes to the successful students took place on December 9. Dr. Walmesley, the principal, said the educational and social work of the Institute showed a successful development during the previous session, but the need of more accommodation was pressing. The establishment of a technical optical section had been amply justified by the results obtained, and an opportunity was presented for the foundation of a "British Institute of Technical Optics" which would do much to restore to Clerkenwell the position as the centre and focus of the optical trade which it formerly held. Lord Reay followed with an address in which he said technical optics are being taught at the Institute as they are taught nowhere else in the world. In the course of the evening a demonstration of Middleton's submersible boat was given in the large swimming-bath.

#### The Sale of Cyanide.

At an inquest held at Bournemouth last week on the body of Mrs. Eleanor Mary Sutton, who had died from poisoning by cyanide of potassium, Dr. Harold Simmons said cyanide of potassium used to be employed in photography, but it was very little used now, except, perhaps, by entomologists for killing insects. He could not imagine in what circumstances any chemist would supply such a dangerous and powerful drug. There was 2 or 3 dr. left in the bottle—enough to kill about a hundred people. A juror thought it had been obtained some time ago. The Coroner (Dr. Kinsey Morgan) said from the label it seemed to have been obtained from a chemist at Bayswater. Dr. Simmons repeated that he could not think on what pretext such a drug had been obtained. It was very little used now in any process whatever. The jury having returned a verdict of poisoning by cyanide of potassium, a jurymen remarked that the chemist who had supplied the poison should be cautioned, and the Coroner said he would hear about the matter in due course.

#### The Week's Poisonings

Three of the dozen deaths from poisoning that have taken place during the week were misadventures. One of these took place at Hammersmith (see page 971). Another misadventure was that of John Blain, aged three, the son of a Liverpool Corporation labourer. The boy soaked some match-heads in a cup of water and drank the solution, afterwards dying. Another phosphorus-poisoning (suicide this time) took place at Pelton Fell, the victim being Selina Harrison, a domestic servant. The third misadventure was at Goole, where a lad, named John Arthur Bottomley, drank a mixture of camphorated oil and laudanum, in mistake for cough-mixture.—Mrs. Pritchard, the matron of Nantwich Workhouse, and her eight-year-old daughter were found unconscious in bed. Two empty bottles labelled "Laudanum" stood on the dressing-table and behind the bed was an empty glass. The child recovered, but Mrs. Pritchard died.—Henry Bentley, a machine warper at Battley Carr, poisoned himself with laudanum. Two deaths from carbolic-acid poisoning are reported—one

at Stamshaw, where Louisa Ann Brown (25) was the victim; the other at Bewdley, where the acid was taken by Annie Weaver (25).—Mary Clements, a Brixton house-keeper, took oxalic acid, and died.—An elderly man, Joseph Elliott, committed suicide at Wakefield with vermin-killer.—Two spirit-of-salt suicides are reported. Mrs. Florence Showell (32), of Greenwich, took the easily obtained mineral acid, and it was also taken by Mrs. Fanny Rapoport (36), of Kensal Rise.

## Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

Application for admission to the undermentioned examinations should be lodged, together with all the necessary documents, with the Registrar not later than eleven o'clock A.M. on the dates mentioned: For the Preliminary examination, on Thursday, December 22; Registered Druggist, Tuesday, December 27; Pharmaceutical Licence, Wednesday, December 28; Pharmaceutical Assistant, Monday, January 2, 1905.

#### Drug-contract.

The Kilkenny County Infirmary Committee have accepted the tender of Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Dublin, for the supply of drugs at 25 per cent. off the list-price.

#### Competition.

A little friendly rivalry exists between two *confrères* of the pestle at Dromore over the merits of their poultry specialities. We gather from the local Press advertisements that the question hinges upon whether a fowl-medicine can contain at the same time a remedy for liver-disease and apoplexy or whether two separate preparations are needed. A good deal of poultry-medicine will obviously have to be sold and used to decide the point.

#### Poisoning Mystery.

A poisoning-case is being investigated by the Armagh police, the victim being an old woman named Pearson. She died some months ago, and the body was exhumed on November 7. Mr. Robert Barklie, of Belfast, has since analysed the viscera, and reports the presence of a quantity of mercury and traces of strychnine. Her daughter-in-law, who went to Montreal after the woman's death, has been arrested by the Canadian police, and will be brought to Ireland.

## Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### Dundee Notes.

Baillie McKinnon, chemist and druggist, has been elected Chairman of Dundee Parish Council.

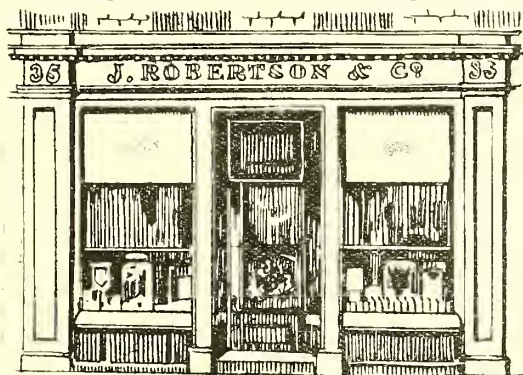
Owing to the success of the central sterilised milk dépôt in Overgate, and for the convenience of those at a distance, the Dundee medical officer is arranging for the establishment of dépôts in chemists' shops throughout the city, from which milk prepared at the central establishment can be issued.

#### A Reminiscence.

The old and historic business of Messrs. James Robertson & Co., chemists, George Street, Edinburgh, will at an early date be transferred to the premises of Mr. W. S. Glass, the present proprietor, at 50 North Bridge Street, where the capsule-making part of the business will still be carried on. Mr. Glass will continue the firm's name, but the old habitat will be occupied by another business altogether. The pharmacy at 35 George Street was founded by the late Mr. James Robertson at the time when Edinburgh still had a society season, and George Street was the centre of a fashionable residential quarter. Mr. Robertson had a magnificent business, Mr. J. B. Stephenson being his partner for a number of years. Then the business was at the height of its prosperity, had Royal and official patronage, and an excellent dispensing connection. Mr. Robertson was one of the Scotch Committee who engaged in the thankless task of blending the Pharmacopœias of the three countries into the first edition of the British Pharma-



copœia. He was also a founder of the North British Branch. When Mr. Stephenson left the business, the management was entrusted to a Mr. Thomas, with whom M. Chantrell, a French teacher, became intimate. Chantrell was hanged in Edinburgh for murdering his wife with



opium, a drug he got from the old pharmacy. Thomas had died somewhat suddenly before the discovery of the murder. The business was acquired about twenty-five years ago by Mr. Thomas Thompson, from whose hands it passed into those of Mr. W. S. Glass. Quite a number of "good men" have been connected with the shop.

#### Glasgow Teeth-extraction Action.

In Glasgow Sheriff Court on Wednesday, December 14, Sheriff Davidson gave judgment in the action for damages raised by Patrick Flynn, bricklayer, residing in Muirhead Street, Partick, against the Hygienic Institute, 30 Elmbank Crescent, Glasgow, of which Messrs. Oscar Farkasch and Robert Agnew are the directors, in respect of injuries alleged to have been received in connection with the extraction of teeth. The hearing was briefly reported in the *C. & D.* of November 19, page 819. Sheriff Davidson now assolizied the defenders, finding no expenses due. In a strongly worded note to his interlocutor his Lordship characterised pursuer's story as an extraordinary cue, and said it must be admitted that there was an antecedent improbability that anyone should be bold enough to perpetrate such an outrage as that described, with only a chance of getting money for false teeth as a reward. There is no law which prohibits a person from drawing teeth without any ostensible qualifications, but if a person profess to draw teeth he must be supposed to guarantee a certain amount of skill in the process. His Lordship had no doubt that the extraction of the teeth in this instance was done somewhat roughly and unscientifically, but, in view of the conflict of expert evidence, he could not say it was done so badly as to render defenders liable.

#### Glasgow Notes.

Mr. R. McAdam (Glasgow Apothecaries' Co.) was a member of the platform party on the occasion of Lord Rosebery's recent political meeting in Glasgow.

Local chemists' Christmas window-shows become more artistic every year. Combinations of delicately tinted art-muslins and artificial flowers produce transformation-scene like effects.

Mr. George Orr was presented with the Kimmimont gold medal at the recent annual dinner of the Glasgow School of Pharmacy. Mr. Orr is a student of the school, and the medal has been gained seven years in succession by students of Mr. Lothian.

Mr. T. S. Barrie, Principal of the West of Scotland College of Pharmacy, writes to the "Evening News" to correct that journal's misstatement that the Fairchild scholarships are to be exclusively confined to his teaching establishment.

Partick chemists are concerned about Sheriff Guthrie's deliverance as to the bearing of the local law for the registration of aerated-water shops on their trade in such waters. They intend to interview the Burgh authorities on the subject.

Boots, Cash Chemists, are advertising their Christmas-present goods on a lavish scale. Their "ad." occupies a

whole page of a morning newspaper, and there is also a house-to-house distribution of circulars. There is no mention of drugs, however.

In a local newspaper review of Mrs. Fred Reynolds's "Book of Angelus Drayton" the critic remarks: "The story is fragrant, delicate, and idyllic, though here and there the work would have been better if it had shown a stronger hold on reality."

The Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association had a day meeting at 94 West Regent Street, on Thursday, December 15. The business comprised (1) the delegates' report of the Sheffield B.P.C. Conference and Federation meeting, and (2) discussion of Shop-hours Act, 1904.

We have had from various sources what is supposed to be an important item of news—viz., a rumour to the effect that the businesses of Frazer & Green, Ltd., and John McMillan, Ltd., are to be amalgamated. We have the best authority for saying that no such combination is contemplated or has taken place.

There is a very acute difference of opinion between suburban and city chemists as to the attitude to be assumed towards the Shop-hours Act, 1904. The city men favour co-operation with other shopkeepers, while the suburbanites are against any alliance, on the ground that suburban business is done mostly at night after city closing-hours.

Mr. Lothian's school supper produced a prodigy in the person of the proposer of "The Pharmaceutical Society," who said that he had the good or evil fortune to have been in the drug-trade before the Society came into existence. Mr. Boa chaffingly congratulated the veteran on carrying his years so lightly. It afterwards transpired that "Society" was a *lapsus lingua* for "Pharmacy Act, 1868."

A correspondence is being carried on in the "Glasgow Herald" on "Pharmacy Prosecutions." "Veritas" set the ball rolling by accusing the Society of partiality in its recent prosecution of doctors' unqualified dispensers, and he also argued that qualification is likely to lead to reckless sale of poisons since the qualified person has nothing to fear. Mr. J. P. Gilmour, Divisional Secretary for East Renfrewshire, in reply, points out that the Society simply performs a statutory duty, under the supervision of the Privy Council, and that there can be no suspicion of animus against shopkeeping doctors because there have been frequent convictions of chemists' unqualified assistants. He adds, that if in the West of Scotland there have been more convictions of doctors' than of chemists' unqualified shop-employees it is because in the chemist's shop the principal is in attendance during the greater part of the business-day.

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

DR. DOYEN gave another exposition of his serum-treatment of cancer on Wednesday, December 14, but it revealed nothing fresh or definite.

COMBINATIONS OF METALS IN PLANTS.—At the meeting of the Paris Academy of Sciences this week, a paper was read from MM. Schlagdenhauffen (Hon. Director of the Nancy College of Pharmacy) and Reeb on the organic combinations of metals in plants. By incineration of petroleum-ether extracts of seeds they have obtained ashes rich in phosphoric acid, alkalies, iron, and manganese. They have noticed in certain seeds the alkali is soda exclusively, without trace of potash, and in others potash without trace of soda.

VERMIN-KILLERS.—The Charentes are being devastated by field-rats, the damage being variously estimated from 750,000*l.* to 2,000,000*l.* sterling. The Prefectures had posters prepared and displayed in the districts affected, recommending the Danyez virus (gratuitously supplied by the Pasteur Institute), sulphide of carbon, and nux vomica. The Pasteurian virus was a complete failure, the nux vomica gave good results, the sulphide of carbon is not yet reported on. The most efficacious mixture consisted of 10 litres of water, 10 litres of grain, 1 kilo. of nux vomica, and 10 grams of tartaric acid.

**BORGIA REDIVIVUS.**—Last Friday the usher of the Paris Municipal Council handed a letter bearing the Tunis postmark to M. Grébaudal, one of the councillors, who was chatting with his neighbour, M. Baridier. M. Grébaudal had no sooner opened the envelope than he fainted, and would have fallen, had he not been supported by a fellow-councillor and led from the room. M. Laurent, General Secretary of the Prefect of Police, picked up the envelope. It contained nothing but a whitish odourless powder wrapped up in an old piece of newspaper. M. Grébaudal soon came to himself, but complained of nausea and violent headache, and similar symptoms in a minor degree were experienced by his neighbours.

## Australasian News.

*Communicated by the Australian Staff of "The Chemist and Druggist."*

The fullest information regarding the Australasian drug-trade and pharmacy is given in "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia," a journal established by the proprietors of this journal, and published in Melbourne, Vic. Copies of the monthly issue can be obtained at 6d. each, post free, from the office of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the following, amongst other, societies:

Central Pharmaceutical Association, N.Z.  
Canterbury (N.Z.) Pharmaceutical Association.  
Otago Pharmaceutical Association, N.Z.  
Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.  
Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.

## New Zealand.

**SHOPS AND OFFICES BILL.**—In Committee in the House of Representatives the Premier moved an amendment on the clause specially relating to chemists' shops. While all shops are ordered to be closed on the half-holiday, exceptions are to be made in cases where the occupier of a chemist's shop keeps his shop open on the statutory closing-day after the prescribed time of closing for the supply of medicines and surgical appliances *certified by a duly qualified medical practitioner to be urgently required*. The words in italics were struck out and the following substituted "which are urgently required, but such shop shall be open for such purposes only."

**THE LICENSING BILL**, which was sent up to the Council from the House of Representatives on October 5, was reported from the Committee of the whole Council on October 21. In districts where no licence for the sale of liquor is established it imposes severe penalties on supply or purchase of liquor except on information being given to some official appointed by the Minister. The Bill originally contained a paragraph as follows:

*Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent any duly registered pharmaceutical chemist within any electorate in which no licence exists from dispensing alcoholic liquors in medicinal quantities for medicinal purposes upon a prescription signed by a duly registered medical practitioner.*

This has been struck out and a new paragraph (G.G.) has been inserted:

*Nothing in this section shall prevent any duly registered pharmaceutical chemist within such district from dispensing alcoholic liquors in medicinal quantities for medicinal purposes upon a certificate signed by a duly registered medical practitioner.*

The difference is that whereas the House of Representatives required a "prescription" the Council accepts a "certificate" signed by a duly registered medical practitioner.

## Tasmania.

**PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA.**—At the monthly Council-meeting on November 1, a communication was read from the Society of Chemist-Opticians of London on the matter of recognition by the Spectacle-makers' Company of certificates of passing the examinations of the various Pharmaceutical societies in subjects identical with those required by the Spectacle-makers' examinations.

## Colonial and Foreign News.

**GERMAN SPIRIT-DEVELOPMENTS.**—The endeavours to make the spirit ring a closer organisation are increasing. In addition to the proposed amalgamation between the Bank für Spirit- und Produkten-handel, and the Posen Spirit Co. (see *C. & D.*, December 3, page 905), one is contemplated between the Breslau Spiritfabrik Co. and the Nordhäuser Spiritfabrik, late Zeissner & Co.

**SALE OF OPIUM IN MAURITIUS.**—The Board of Trade have received, from the Collector of Customs at Port Louis, a copy of an Ordinance (No. 17 of 1904) which was assented to by the Governor of Mauritius on October 17, 1904. The present Ordinance amends the Ordinance No. 2 of 1867, relating to the importation and sale of opium by (1) cancelling the exemption from duty on opium, or its preparations and compounds, imported by chemists and druggists for medicinal purposes, and (2) providing that chemists and druggists retailing opium must take out a licence therefor.

**GERMAN PHARMACY REFORM.**—A German *apotheker* proposes a somewhat peculiar way to introduce the much-needed reforms in German pharmacy. His plan is that a State tax of 5pf. (a little over a halfpenny) should be levied on every prescription made up. Assuming that there are 6,000 pharmacies in Germany, this would bring in 110,000f. a year (twenty prescriptions are supposed as the weekly average for each pharmacy). This amount would contribute (1) towards paying for a *locum-tenens* for those *apothekers* who work alone, during a fixed yearly holiday, and in case of illness (2) to grant an increase of pay every three years to assistants and (3) towards the much-needed old-age and invalids' pension funds for pharmacists. The public, however, do not see the favourable side of this proposal, but considers it a further proof of the truth of the expression "high-charging pharmacies" (*teure Apotheke*).

**THE NOBEL PRIZES.**—At Stockholm, on December 10, the Nobel prize for Physics was awarded to Lord Rayleigh, and the Chemistry prize to Sir William Ramsay, in the Great Hall of the Academy of Music, in the presence of King Oscar. They received their prizes, together with diplomas and gold medals, in person from his Majesty. Each prize amounts to 140,858kr. (about 7,825f.). The distribution of the prizes was followed by a banquet at the Grand Hotel. Covers were laid for 190 guests, the company including the Crown Prince, Prince Charles and Princess Ingeborg, Lord and Lady Rayleigh, and Sir William and Lady Ramsay. The "Times" states that Lord Rayleigh proposes to present his prize to Cambridge University. We observe that Sir William Ramsay lectured to a Stockholm audience on Monday dealing with the neon group of gases, and Lord Rayleigh followed on Tuesday with one on the density of gases.

**PATENT MEDICINES IN NORWAY.**—The attention of the Norwegian medical faculty has for some time past been directed, writes United States Consul Bordewich, to the increasing importation of patent medicines and other medicinal preparations into Norway. Such preparations have always been looked upon with distrust by the physicians, and the increasing demand has brought them into disfavour with the druggists. At the instigation of the medical director of the country the matter was laid before the Storting last April, and a law was passed May 16, 1904, providing that the King or his deputies be authorised to forbid the sale of certain arcana and of medicinal preparations for which the prices asked stand in disproportion to the true value of the ingredients. Under this law it was decreed (1) that certain arcana and patent medicines named be excluded; (2) the publication of advertisements in Norwegian newspapers to further the sale of any and all foreign patent medicines is forbidden; (3) the importation of all arcana and medicines is forbidden except by druggists and private persons under special permit; (4) fines not to exceed 5,000kr. (\$1,340) may be imposed for violations of any of the above enactments. Under the provisions of this new law other decrees will soon follow, and there is reason to believe that the imports into and sale in Norway of nearly all patent medicines as well as of arcana will ultimately be stopped.



## Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

### BENEVOLENT FUND ELECTION.

THE election of four annuitants from a list of six candidates took place on December 13 at the house of the Pharmaceutical Society, Bloomsbury Square, W.C. The poll was declared in the afternoon, the scrutineers having been busy all the morning in counting the votes. Mr. J. W. Bowen acted as chairman of the scrutineers. The following was the result of the count, the first four being the successful annuitants:

Miller, Anne	...	...	...	7,436
Brodribb, John B.	...	...	...	7,303
Smith, William	...	...	...	5,627
Jefferson, Ebenezer W.	...	...	...	3,576
<hr/>				
James, Jane	...	...	...	3,378
Marjason, John M.	...	...	...	3,056

A vote of thanks was passed to the scrutineers and the Chairman for their services.

### EVENING MEETING.

THE second evening meeting of the session was held in the lecture-theatre of 19 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on December 13, the Vice-President (Mr. J. R. Young) in the chair. There was a good attendance, among those present being Messrs. S. R. Atkins, J. T. Barrett, J. W. Bowen, E. T. Brewis, F. Davis, W. Ralph Dodd, H. Fimmere, F. W. Gamble, W. F. Gulliver, Walter Hills, W. L. Howie, T. Mahen, W. H. Martindale, E. J. Peck, P. E. F. Perrédès, F. Ransom, C. E. Sage, A. E. Tanner, and J. C. Umney.

A little after eight the Vice-President opened the proceedings by explaining that the President, who was to have been in the chair, was detained by his public business. He then called on Professor R. T. Hewlett, of King's College, to give an address on

### ANTITOXINS.

At the onset Professor HEWLETT announced that he intended to review the work with regard to the nature and formation of antitoxins and antisera rather than lay before the meeting anything new on the subject. He then proceeded to outline the mode of preparation of the substances. The formation of antitoxins is based on the fact that if one puts into the living body of an animal some bacterial toxin, and provided too much is not used, the infection is followed sooner or later by the formation in the blood of the animal of antidotal substances which have the effect of neutralising the poison. The process resembles somewhat the homœopathic formula of like curing like, with the difference, that a poison is put in the animal and the product is a substance antagonistic to the poison. These antidotal substances in the blood are procured by bleeding the animal, coagulating the blood and obtaining the clear serum, hence antitoxic serums. There are two distinct classes of microbes—one, to which diphtheria and tetanus belong, being characterised by the fact that, when grown in a suitable nutrient broth, they produce, after passing through a Pasteur-Chamberland or Berkefeld filter, a toxin or extra-cellular poison that is poisonous although no bacteria are present. With a much larger class of bacteria this process does not take place. To this class belong the streptococci, pneumonic, and plague bacteria, from which extra-cellular toxins are never obtained, the filtrate being non-poisonous or nearly so.

The mode of making antisera was then gone into in detail. The toxins are injected into a horse in small and increasing doses at intervals of two, three, or six days, according to circumstances. The first effect of the injection may be to cause a certain amount of constitutional disturbance, but gradually the doses render the animal immune even to huge doses of the poison. With most poisons, although a certain amount of tolerance can be obtained, it is not possible to proceed beyond a certain point, but in the case of bacterial poisons there is practically no limit to the immunity that can be acquired. Coincidentally with the insusceptibility of the animal there are developed antidotal substances or antitoxins in the blood. As regards the second

class of microbial therapeutic agents, it is not the filtered cultures but the microbes themselves that are injected into the animal. The start is made with small doses of "killed" cultures, which are gradually increased till the living cultures are able to be used. Ultimately the animal becomes immunised to the poison. In the serum of an animal so treated antidotal substances are formed, but these are antagonistic to the microbe, hence this class of serums is, properly speaking, anti-microbial, and not antitoxic.

### THE PROCESS OF MANUFACTURE

was shown on the screen by the optical lantern, the slides being lent by Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. While the slides were being put through the lantern the lecturer made a running comment on the pictures, some of the points being that the injections into the animal caused no inconvenience. Six months may be needed for the horse to reach the immune stage. The bleeding is managed by making a cut over the jugular vein, a needle is thrust into the vein and the blood drawn off. As much as twelve pints of blood may be taken without causing the animal any inconvenience beyond an abnormal thirst for a few days. Aseptic precautions are insisted on at all these operations. The blood is put into sterilised bottles and set aside to coagulate. The serum is then filtered through porcelain slabs and bottled. For export the serum is dried over sulphuric acid *in vacuo*.

The lecturer then, commenting that it is extraordinary that antidotal substances should be produced in the animal's blood after the injection of toxins, and that each antitoxin is only antidotal to the particular poison, proceeded to deal with the theories that have been put forward to account for this. Some suppose that the toxins are transformed into the antidotal substances, but against this must be placed the fact that the amount of the antidotal substance produced bears no proportional relation to the toxin put in. The lecturer inclines to

### EHRLICH'S SIDE-CHAIN THEORY.

which he thinks explains the facts in a simple and comprehensive manner. Ehrlich assumes that the living matter—protoplasm—in the body is composed of exceedingly complex molecules, and that these molecules have attached atomic groupings which a chemist terms side-chains. These side-chains are of considerable instability and ready to combine with other suitable atomic groupings that come within their sphere of action. This affinity the lecturer likened to the relation of a lock and key or male and female screw. Ehrlich believes that nutrition is carried out by these side-chains, by the linking of side-chains of food-stuffs with co-receptive molecules of the living matter. The action of toxins is due to the fact that there are side-chains that have an affinity for the side-chains of living matter. Should the living matter not possess suitable side-chains, the animal would be immune. White rats are insusceptible to diphtheria, hence it is assumed that these animals have no suitable side-chains. The actual combinations between toxins and the living matter are really more complex, as two stages are observed in toxin-poisoning—there is usually a period of twenty hours, known as the incubation period, before poisoning shows itself. The application of the theory was made clearer by means of diagrammatic lantern-slides in which haptophore (receptive) groups were shown ready to combine with haptophile (receptor) groups of the cell. The physiological law that continued stimulation leads to continued production was invoked here, the receptor groups being produced in large numbers as soon as they are taken up by the receptive. The cells then produce receptor groups in excess of those needed; these are secreted and float in the blood-stream, and become the antitoxins. To produce poisoning it is necessary for the toxin to become attached to the cell, so that if it becomes attached to a floating receptor group the poisoning effect is neutralised. It is not, however, clear why antitoxins are able to break the union of the toxins and the cells, as can be proved experimentally, but it is likely that the receptors of the antitoxins are not quite the same as regards affinities as are those of the cells. Another fact proved experimentally—that the longer the interval after the infection of the blood by toxins, the greater the amount of antitoxin required—was advanced as an argument for the early-serum-treatment of diphtheria.

As it was getting late, the lecturer rather hurried through

his account of the preparation of toxoids from antitoxin serums and other experimental evidence which he considered to bear out Ehrlich's theory. He concluded by referring to the less potent character of the anti-microbial serums, and said that although attempts have been made to reinforce their action by simultaneously injecting fresh normal serum, the success was not great. For some reason the amount of serum is in no way proportional to the poisonous dose of the microbe—for instance, 5 c.c. of cholera-serum will just neutralise 5 mgms. of cholera culture, but 15 c.c. will not, as one would expect, protect the animal against 15 mgms. of culture. When more than a certain quantity of poison has been administered no amount of serum will save the animal. The lecturer finally acknowledged his indebtedness to Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., the Lister Institute, and Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., for samples of serum, serum-syringes, and lantern-slides lent for the occasion.

#### DISCUSSION.

The CHAIRMAN, remarking that the lecture was distinctly beneficial to chemists, called upon

Mr. WALTER HILLS to move a vote of thanks to the lecturer.

Mr. T. MABEY supported the vote. He said that antitoxins are now necessities rather than luxuries, and when one considers the risks and losses that occur during the preparation of the serum, the prices are distinctly moderate. Two drops of a toxin is sufficient to kill a horse in the preliminary stage of the process of preparation, while after a few months a litre can be injected without ill-effect. The *résumé* of Ehrlich's theory of side-chains was very interesting, but much of the theory has already been disproved by the investigations of Professor Muir, of Glasgow. Would Professor Hewlett explain the meaning of A. U., "antitoxin unit," which occur on the packages of antitoxin? Pharmacists generally looked upon the letters as cabalistic, like some of the old pharmacy symbols. Medical men looked forward to the time when antitoxins will be supplied for all poisons, but in the case of strychnine this seems at present hopeless. Strychnine gives tetanic spasm in the same way as the tetanus bacillus, but no antitoxin is produced, or if produced it has no antidotal effect.

Mr. GAMBLE inquired what becomes of the bacteria when they are dissolved by the antitoxin. If the bacteria in their original state are strong enough to produce disease, are they not still strong enough to produce some effects when in solution? He would also like the lecturer to enlighten him as to the different tuberculins. There are two kinds on the market—Koch's new and Koch's old tuberculin: are they both suitable for diagnostic purposes? The German Pharmacopœia has only one modification of Koch's tuberculin, but although a clear definition is given of the physical appearances, no indication is given of the use or dose. The descriptions of tuberculin in Squire's "Pocket Companion" and the "Extra Pharmacopœia"—"that maintain in all our troubles"—are not consistent with the statement in the German Pharmacopœia. Mr. Gamble also asked whether an osmotic process for the exact standardisation of antimicrobial serums had not been devised.

Dr. W. H. MARTINDALE, referring to the statement as to tuberculin in "Squire's Companion" and the "Extra Pharmacopœia," said that as regards his book he had taken a good deal of trouble to bring the information as to toxins up to date and had recognised the excellent work of Professor Hewlett. As a consequence, he claimed that his descriptions of the two tuberculins are quite accurate.

Professor HEWLETT, replying, said the unit of diphtheria antitoxin is roughly the amount of antitoxin that will just neutralise about 100 poisonous doses of diphtheria-toxin. The new tuberculin is not of use for diagnostic purposes, for which the old tuberculin is particularly fitted. The standardisation of antimicrobial serums is, he confessed, not nearly so satisfactory as the antitoxic serums. It is possible that the osmotic method may be useful.

The CHAIRMAN announced that, owing to the late hour, Mr. E. M. Holmes' notes on "Recent Additions to the Museum" would not be read. Refreshments were served in the examination hall, where were also on view some optical exhibits by Messrs. Raphael, Wheway & Redfern, Ltd., and recent additions to the museum.

## Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B. Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks at the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C. within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 16, 1904.)

Device of a waterfall; for toilet-soaps. By E. Bennett, 11 Clayton Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 266,720.

"BRISE EMBAUMÉE" and "A LA CORBEILLE FLEURIE"; for a perfume. By Ed. Pinaud, 18 Place Vendôme, Paris. 267,156.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 23, 1904.)

"FIKOL" ("Fix" disclaimed) and design of a man in stocks; for chemicals. By the Vulite Co., Ltd., 25 Euston Square, N.W. 267,187-9-90.

Device of a pointer; for dog-soap. By D. & W. Gibbs, Ltd., City Soap-works, Wapping, E. 266,766.

"THE RAJAH" and device; for chemicals. By Parke's Drug-stores, Ltd., 65 Harwood Street, N.W. 267,363.

"ZAM-BUK"; for chemicals. By the Bile Bean Manufacturing Co., 15 Greek Street, Leeds. 266,690.

"OSMO PHOROD" ("Osmo" and "Phor" disclaimed); for chemicals. By C. J. Hewlett & Son, 40 Charlotte Street, E.C. 266,810.

"HARZIMONA" ("Harz" disclaimed) and devices; for a herbal mixture. By Max Schliephak, Ltd., and B. Lauer, 44 Charlotte Street, W. 265,403.

"ROZO"; for a corn-cure. By Waukeze Manufacturing Co., 12 North St. Andrew Street, Edinburgh. 266,891.

"TERPEROIN"; for chemicals. By Squire & Sons, 413 Oxford Street, W. 266,899.

"OLANIMENT"; for chemicals. By W. Poppelreuter, 54 Portland Street, Manchester. 266,915.

"LIVEROIDS" ("Liver" disclaimed); for chemicals. By the Chemical Institute, 4 Byard Lane, Nottingham. 267,312.

"SUKRIND"; for an aerated-water sweetening agent. By T. Thompson, 20 Scotland Street, Edinburgh. 265,665.

"MEL-HILY" ("Mel" disclaimed); for food-substances and perfumery. By T. H. Holloway, The Valley, Bromley, Kent. 267,112-3.

Device of Samson overthrowing the pillars of the Temple; for mineral and aerated waters. By J. A. Reid, Lily Spring Works, Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire. 266,806.

"AOK"; for soaps. By W. Anhalt Gesellschaft, 1 Kirschenallee, Colberg, Prussia. 265,875-6.

"LATHERO" ("Lather" disclaimed); for soaps. By J. Day & Sons, Ltd., 7 Garden Street, Leeds. 266,095.

"LIKECO"; for soap. By E. Cook & Co., Ltd., East London Soap-works, Bow, E. 266,844.

"CAROSIL" ("Carbo" disclaimed) (in Norwegian); for a detergent and bleaching preparation. By J. Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., Bank Quay, Warrington. 267,194.

Seal device of a horse; for perfumery. By Patey & Co., 49 Scrutton Street, London. 266,413.

"ZODIAC" and device with signs of the zodiac. By Horsfield & Co., 17 Major Street, Manchester. 261,090.

"JANOS VEBER" and device; for a shampoo. By J. Veber, 7 Strauss Road, Bedford Park, W. 266,838.

"GOLDEN STOOL" and device of a stool; for a pomade. By J. G. Little & Co., 5 Price Street, Liverpool. 266,875.

"LENCLOESZONE"; for perfumery. By C. S. Stephens, 27 College Court, Hammersmith, W. 267,478.

"ASERO"; for perfumery. By E. Cook & Co., Ltd., East London Soap-works, Bow, E. 267,553.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," November 30, 1904.)

Device of a lion rampant; for photographic films. By the Imperial Dry-plate Co., Limited, Ashford Road, Cricklewood, N.W. 266,167.

"NUCLON"; for chemicals. By A. E. Angier, A. McF. Davis, and J. L. Ward, 32 Snow Hill, E.C. 267,504.

"TOWERENE" ("Tower" disclaimed); for a sanitary liquid soap. By the Tower Cleansing-fluid Co., 50 Standish Street, Liverpool. 267,096.

"CINCOLA"; for veterinary preparations. By F. Hewthorn & Co., Ltd., 70 Finsbury Pavement, E.C. 267,442.

"ELEVO" and design of dividers and stars; for chemicals. By B. C. Tipper & Son, 43 Horner Street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham. 267,623.



## REMEDIES FOR EPILEPSY.

THE "British Medical Journal" of December 10 contains the first of a series of analyses of certain secret remedies, which have been performed by "an expert chemist and pharmacist." The first series comprises remedies for epilepsy, and we reprint the formulæ as given in the "B. M. J.," referring those interested to our contemporary for fuller particulars:

### OZERINE.

Prepared by L. W. Nicholl, Pharmaceutical Chemist, 25 High Street, Belfast. The formula ascertained by analysis is as follows:

Potassium bromide, 120 grains.  
Ammonium carbonate, 16 grains.  
Burnt sugar, q.s. to colour.  
Chloroform-water to 1 fl. oz.

Dose: One teaspoonful before breakfast and dinner, and two at bedtime.

### W. & J. TAYLOR'S CELEBRATED ANTI-EPILEPTIC MEDICINE.

Sole export agents, W. Lambert & Co., 173 Seymour Place, W. The formula ascertained by analysis is:

Tincture of iodine,  $\frac{3}{4}$  minim.  
Potassium bromide, 13 grains.  
Ammonium bromide, 4 grains.

Water to 1 fl. oz.

Dose: One teaspoonful three times a day.

### OSBORNE'S MIXTURE FOR EPILEPSY.

Prepared only by James Osborne, Medical Pharmacy, Ashbourne. The formula ascertained by analysis is:

Potassium bromide, 166 grains.  
Sugar, 48 grains (=syrup 5j).  
Burnt sugar, q.s. to colour.  
Peppermint-water to 1 fl. oz.

Dose: One large teaspoonful morning and night.

### "PROFESSOR" O. PHELPS BROWN'S VERVAIN RESTORATIVE ASSIMILANT.

General office, 61 Chandos Street, Covent Garden, W.C. The formula ascertained by analysis is:

Decoction of vervain (2 oz. to a pint), 4 fluid drachms.  
Port wine, 1 fl. dr.  
Rectified spirit, 2 fl. dr.  
Water to 1 fl. oz.

Dose: One dessertspoonful three times a day before eating.

### TRENCH'S REMEDY FOR EPILEPSY AND FITS.

Made by Trench's Remedies, Ltd., 33 South Frederick Street, Dublin.

*Liquid Preparation.*—The formula ascertained by analysis is:

Potassium bromide, 70 grains.  
Ammonium bromide, 10 grains.  
Sugar, 72 grains (=syrup 5iss).  
Fuchsian q.s. to colour.  
Water to 1 fl. oz.

Dose: One teaspoonful in the morning and two at night.

*"Concentrated Form."*—The formula of the powder ascertained by analysis is:

Potassium bromide, 61 parts.  
Moist brown sugar, 39 parts.

The calculated composition of the finished mixture is:

Potassium bromide, 120 grains.  
Moist brown sugar, 77 grains.  
Water to 1 fl. oz.

Dose of Mixture.—One teaspoonful in the morning and two at night.

## CHEMISTS' CALENDARS.

THE first specimen of a retail chemists' almanac to reach us this year came from Mr. W. Haythornthwaite, The Pharmacy, Docking. A picture of the pharmacy is given on the cover, and in addition to the matter usually contained in almanacs there is a useful section on children's ailments which should be much appreciated by customers.—Mr. J. Spencer Palmer, chemist and dentist, Coronation House, Thornbury, Glos., also sends us a copy of his 1905 almanac. It opens with an article "On Seeing," which deals with an astronomical dream, and there is another on "Credulity," dealing with patent medicines and theology. Both articles will give the readers something to consider. One of the most telling advertisements in the almanac is about Mr. Palmer's hair-wash. Two photographs are given of a customer "before" and "after" which should convince the most hardened sceptic.

A white-covered almanac (white covers are the style this year) is issued by Mr. E. L. Hinde, Stoke Ferry. Good lists of household-requisites, toilet-articles, and veterinary remedies should bring business, while the local information ensures the almanac being kept for reference.

The pleasant face of Mr. Frederick Gibson, Gooch Street, Birmingham, greeted us from the front of his 1905 almanac in our post-basket early this week. A

cheery address of prosperity and good health appears on the first page, and there are numerous photographic reproductions of Mr. Gibson's premises throughout the book. The calendar portion is attractive, and there are blank pages for diary purposes. A novelty with this almanac is the inclusion of a pamphlet by the Imperial Tariff Committee of Birmingham in which Cobden cuts a poor figure.

## WELLCOME PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB.

ONE of the most progressive departments of the Wellcome Club and Institute at Dartford, founded by Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, is the Photographic Club. For the benefit of the employes generally Mr. Wellcome, when this club was founded, equipped a dark-room with enlarging-apparatus, chemicals, etc. This convenience has enabled many of the employes, under the tuition of the more experienced photographers among them, such as Mr. H. W. Lane, to attain a high degree of artistic excellence. The club is accustomed to hold an annual exhibition of the work of the members, and the fifth of these was, in the absence of Mr. Wellcome in the United States, opened last Saturday afternoon by Mr. R. Clay Sudlow, general manager of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. We were privileged to have a private view after Mr. J. H. Gear, F.R.P.S., had selected the pictures for prize awards. We found, apart from the loan collection of photographs of Egyptian scenes taken by Mr. Wellcome during his sojourn in the Soudan and a collection of American views by Messrs. H. Martin Kallman and Aubrey T. Hill (manager of the factories), 115 pictures by Miss L. M. Warwick, Messrs. G. H. Barnes, F. H. Carr, F. S. Clarke, H. H. Crosbie, W. H. Fowkes, G. T. Gale (Sydney, N.S.W.), A. H. Gracie, W. Gray, H. Hamlin, A. B. Hector (Sydney, N.S.W.), J. A. Hogg, R. E. Jackson, F. W. Johnson, C. Kent, H. W. Lane, W. B. Lord, W. H. Marsh, S. F. Morgan, L. Nurse, C. I. Pearsall, W. H. Porter, C. Raisin, W. C. Reynolds, R. C. Ralphs, C. Spencer, and A. Wilson. There were, besides, half-a-dozen pictures selected from last year's exhibition for the Wellcome permanent collection of photographs. What struck us about the exhibits was the charming manner in which the various members had selected the best bits from their negatives in order to produce an effective picture, and not less important than this is the record they are making of views of the country round Dartford and of passing scenes and ancient relics which cannot long be with us. Some members who have gone abroad have also done well with their cameras, even Australia and India furnishing exhibits. The exhibition was formally opened at 3.30, when Mr. Sudlow was supported by Mr. Imri Kiralfy, Mr. A. Wilson, and Mr. W. H. Fowkes (Chairman of the club). There was a goodly gathering of the staff and the employes. Mr. Fowkes briefly indicated the work that the club is doing, and was followed by Mr. Sudlow, who, in declaring the exhibition open, made a witty speech. He said that if the club had been a motor-car he would have described its record as one of remarkable progress, but he would prefer to say rapid development, and he knew that as the months go on the interest will be intensified. He was glad to know that the committee of the club had decided to make the awards, and he felt that Mr. Gear's selection would meet with entire satisfaction. When the awards were decided upon the various members interested set to work to see what form they should take, and it was an indication of the self-contained position of Burroughs Wellcome & Co. that one member of the staff thought out an absolutely unique prize and another carried out his design. This takes the form of a bronze Orionic plaque (here figured). The Chairman then presented four of these to the winners—namely, Mr. H. W. Lane, for his "Misty Sunrise"; Mr. W. H. Fowkes, for his "Shades of Evening"; Mr. F. S. Clarke, Secretary of the Club, for "The Derelict"; and Mr. W. Gray, Treasurer, for "Birches and Bracken."

Each of these pictures, as well as Mr. Aubrey T. Hill's "Niagara Fall," is to be placed in the permanent collection. Mr. Sudlow regretted that he could not say more as just before coming in he had taken a tubeful of "Tabloid" restraints, which he found to be very effective as a shutter-up. (Laughter.) On the motion of Mr. Wilson, Mr. Sudlow was cordially thanked.



## Legal Reports.

### High Court Cases.

#### A BILE BEANS CASE.

In the Chancery Division on Friday, December 9, before Mr. Justice Swinfen-Eady, Mr. Eve, K.C., said he had a motion in the matter of Bile Beans Manufacturing Co. v. Henry Squire, Cash Chemists, Ltd., but he desired to save it for a week. His Lordship assented.

#### THE SHAMROCK TRADE-MARK.

LAST week, before the Master of the Rolls, Dublin, the case of Finlay v. the Shamrock Soap Co. came on for hearing on an application by plaintiff, a soap and glycerin manufacturer in Belfast, for an injunction to restrain defendants from using the word "Shamrock" on their labels for washing-powder soap or starch manufactured by them, the device in question being plaintiff's trade-mark. It was stated that plaintiff's firm had been in business since 1798. The defence was a plea of justification, the relative devices being quite distinct. The case was adjourned until the next sittings of the court.

#### SCHWEPPES, LTD., v. GIBBENS AND BISCOMEE & SONS, LTD.

THESE motions were mentioned in the Court of Appeal on December 7, by way of application by the plaintiffs for a stay of execution with a view to an appeal to the House of Lords. Their Lordships refused the application unless plaintiffs could show special circumstances; but adjourned it for a week to enable them to show the special circumstances, if any. On Wednesday, December 14, appellants did not appear, and their Lordships did not make any order except that the respondents should have costs of the application.

#### ACTION AGAINST A CHEMIST.

In the King's Bench Division on Thursday, December 15, before Mr. Justice Lawrance and a common jury, Mr. Alfred Bowyer, a surveyor, Enfield, sought to recover damages for alleged libel from Mr. George Morris, formerly a chemist in a large way of business, with a branch at Enfield. The passage complained of was in a letter from the defendant to the plaintiff, who was looking after some house property for him, stating that he could quite understand that he (plaintiff) was anxious to order repairs. Mr. Bowyer contended that this was a reflection upon him, but the defendant denied there was any defamatory meaning. A verdict was returned for the defendant.

#### No. 4711 EAU DE COLOGNE.

A MOTION in the action between Ferd. Mühlens and Rudolph Joannes Reuter v. Plummer Roddiss, Ltd., which has relation to the sale of eau de Cologne, came before Mr. Justice Kekewich in the Chancery Division on Friday, December 9. Mr. Walter, on behalf of plaintiffs, stated that the motion was to restrain passing off. The defendants' counsel did not consent, but was not in a position to oppose the application for an interim injunction. In the circumstances he asked his Lordship for an interim injunction in terms of the notice of motion which was in the proper form, the plaintiffs giving the usual undertaking in damages. Mr. P. Ogden Lawrence, K.C., for the defendants, stated that he is to fight this case, but he could not get ready to do it on the motion. On his friend giving an undertaking in damages he was content to let the plaintiffs take an interim injunction, it being understood the defendants did not submit in any way. Mr. Walter said the interim injunction would not be expressed to be by consent. His Lordship assented.

#### THE SHIP SOAP MARK.

THE case of Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd. v. Oowana, Ltd., was again mentioned before Mr. Justice Swinfen-Eady in the Chancery Division on Friday, December 9. Mr. Eve, K.C., for the plaintiffs, stated that the motion is one to restrain an alleged infringement of the plaintiff company's trade-mark. The defendants had filed a number of affidavits, and it would be necessary for the motion to stand over till next week. Plaintiffs desired to make the motion effective then, and he asked his learned friend if his evidence was closed. Mr. Micklem, K.C., for the defendants, said the case is a very heavy one. His evi-

dence was not quite closed, but he would put in the rest of it as quickly as he could. Mr. Eve said fifteen affidavits had been supplied to the defendants, and they had notice of five others. If his learned friend would complete his evidence by Monday, the motion could be made effective that week. Mr. Micklem said he would endeavour to do so. His Lordship accordingly directed the motion to stand over till Friday, December 16.

#### BADISCHE ACTIONS.

IN the Chancery Division on Monday, December 12, before Mr. Justice Buckley, Mr. J. C. Graham said that the plaintiffs and the defendants in the action *Badische Anilin- und Soda-fabrik v. Spivey* had practically settled, and in the circumstances he asked that it should stand out of the list until next sittings. Mr. Justice Buckley said he would not take the case that day. By the following day the parties would know whether they were going to settle it or not, and if they did not he would try it. On Tuesday morning, Mr. J. G. Graham said that in this case the defendants had signed consent to an injunction, with inquiry as to damages, delivering up, and costs.

In the same court on December 12 the case of *Badische Anilin- und Soda-fabrik v. Hickson* and another was heard. Here the plaintiffs sued the defendants for an injunction to restrain them from importing into England, and from manufacturing, selling, supplying, and using in England, dyes manufactured according to or in manner described in the specifications of letters patent No. 14,723 of 1891 and No. 9,633 of 1892, and generally from infringing the rights of the plaintiffs in these letters patent. The plaintiffs also asked for damages in respect of the infringement of these letters patent, and also in respect of plaintiffs' letters patent No. 15,374 of 1887, as well as delivery up of dyes made in infringement of the first-named two patents. Mr. Colefax, on behalf of the plaintiffs, said the action was brought against Mr. Ernest Hickson, of Bentley Street, Bradford, and the Basle Chemical-works, but it had been stayed as against the Basle Co. The validity of the plaintiffs' patents was not contested. The defence admitted infringement of the 1891 and 1892 patents by the importation into this country of certain rhodamine and rocein, and the defendant was willing to consent to judgment for an injunction with respect to these two patents, to an inquiry as to damages, and to pay the costs of the action. Infringement of the 1887 patent was denied. After evidence by Mr. Peter Leuthardt, formerly manager of the Basle Chemical-works, and Mr. Hickson, the defendant, Mr. Justice Buckley intimated that the plaintiffs had not proved infringement with respect to the 1887 patent, but he granted an injunction to restrain infringement of the 1891 and 1892 patents, with damages and costs.

### Dentists Act.

#### AMERICAN DIPLOMAS USELESS.

AT the Cardigan Police Court on Monday, December 12, Mr. A. D. Walker, High Street, was charged with unlawfully using the name and title of a dentist without being registered under the Act. The prosecution was undertaken by the South Wales and Monmouthshire Dentists' Association, and Mr. George David, Cardiff, who represented them, said the defendant was originally an assistant with the late Mr. McPhail, dentist, Carmarthen. On his death defendant and a Mr. Tew, another assistant, entered into partnership, the latter remaining at Carmarthen, and defendant taking up his residence at Cardigan, where Mr. McPhail had a branch. Defendant produced an American diploma in dentistry, showing he was entitled to practise, but in cross-examination by Mr. David he admitted that he was only in America three months, and that his diploma was sent to England after him. The Bench imposed a fine of 1*l.*, and costs.

### Merchandise-marks Act.

#### "SODA CRYSTALS."

AT Tunbridge Wells on December 12, before a full bench of magistrates, Frederick Fowler, oilman, 26 Camden Road, Tunbridge Wells, was summoned, at the instance of the Board of Trade, for selling certain goods



(to wit, Glauber's salt mixed with soda crystals) to which a false description—viz., "soda crystals"—was given. He was further summoned for causing a false description to be applied to the article; and there was a further similar summons for unlawfully applying a false trade description to the article in question. There was also a similar summons against Mr. Charles W. Holmes of 144 Camden Road. Mr. Safford, barrister, appeared for the Board of Trade, and Mr. F. W. Beck (Neve, Beck, & Kirby) appeared for the defendant.

In opening the first case Mr. Safford said the proceedings were taken under the 1887 Act, the object of which is to protect the public against fraud by ensuring that the consumer receives goods corresponding in substance and quality to that which is asked for and which he expects to receive. The article in question was soda—the ordinary soda crystals used for cleansing purposes, and whose value depends on that quality. In this case the article was adulterated to such a degree with a substance that has no cleansing properties—viz. sulphate of soda or Glauber's salt—that it was of little value for washing purposes. The Board of Trade were in this instance prosecuting in the interests of the trade and also of the community. The Act provides that every person who sells any article must sell exactly the article asked for by the purchaser, and he shall be deemed guilty of an offence under the Act if he sells goods of a different description, unless he can prove that he had no reason to suspect the nature and quality of the goods sold, and that he acted innocently believing the article to be of the description applied to it. That, however, did not apply, said Mr. Safford, to this case. The facts were as follows: On September 1, Mr. Butler, a representative of Messrs. Brunner, Mond, & Co., soda-manufacturers, etc., went to Mr. Fowler, and purchased, among other articles, 1 cwt. of soda at 4s. per cwt. He asked for "soda crystals"; the term being used on the invoice, and the designation also appearing on the bags. There could, therefore, be no doubt that Mr. Fowler described it and sold it as "soda crystals." Mr. Butler took samples of the article so bought, and sent one, marked "F. T. W. No. 1," to Mr. Kling, the analyst at Brunner, Mond, & Co.'s, Warrington; another, marked "F. T. W. No. 2," he sent to Mr. A. Gordon Salamon, analytical chemist, London; and Sample No. 3 was sent to Dr. Hehner. Subsequently, on account of the result of the analysis of the three samples, another sample was sent to Dr. Dupré the analyst representing the Board of Trade. The analysis of Mr. Kling showed that the substance contained 64 per cent. of soda crystals and 34 per cent. of Glauber's salt, Mr. Salamon's analysis showed 78.89 and 18.78 per cent., Dr. Hehner's 35.29 and 61.87 per cent., and Dr. Dupré's 39.2 and 60.7 per cent. Mr. Safford said the variation in the composition could be explained by saying that sulphate of soda had been mixed with the soda crystals after the latter had been manufactured. In soda crystals as manufactured there is never more than 1 or 2 per cent. of sulphate. It was obvious, therefore, that they were dealing with a case of adulteration.

Mr. Beck, for the defence, interposed before witnesses were heard with the remark that his defence was that the article sold was truthfully described. He also said that he considered the prosecution was really at the instance of Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., for the purpose of establishing a monopoly—(laughter)—and was not a *bona-fide* Board of Trade prosecution.

Mr. Safford assured Mr. Beck that he represented the Board of Trade, and not Brunner, Mond & Co.

Mr. Beck: Yes, nominally.

Mr. Guyton Butler, then in evidence bore out Mr. Safford's statement. In cross-examination he said he took premises for a day at Back Pantiles, Tumbridge Wells, for the purpose of obtaining the goods. (Laughter.)

Mr. Beck then asked numerous questions concerning Brunner, Mond & Co.'s business, to which Mr. Safford objected as being irrelevant.

Mr. Archibald Kling, F.I.C., spoke to his analysis and the composition of true soda crystals. He was then taken by Mr. Beck upon the composition of Glauber's salt and soda crystals, and the water of crystallisation in them. He considered sulphate of soda quite useless for washing purposes.

Mr. A. Gordon Salamon, F.I.C., F.C.S., after giving particulars of his analysis, stated that in pure soda crystals there is not more than 2 per cent. of sodium sulphate. This occurs naturally, and has not to be added. Questioned as to the relative values, he said, speaking roughly, he should say Glauber's salt is worth about 35s. per ton and soda crystals between 4l. and 5l. It is almost impossible, he added, for the ordinary retail customer to distinguish between the two chemicals. Glauber's salt is quite useless for cleansing purposes. Witness produced a sample of soda which he had obtained personally at Harrod's Stores, London. He bought 7 lbs. for 3½d. Upon analysis he discovered the presence of 96.86 soda crystals, and 0.63 Glauber's salt.

Cross-examined: He was sorry he had no interest in Harrod's. (Laughter.) Further examined, witness produced a sample that he said he obtained through a well-known chemists' broker in London from the United Alkali Co. That upon analysis showed 98.26 of soda crystals, and 1.13 of Glauber's salt. He believed dyers and bleachers use sulphate of soda, but it has absolutely no purifying value of itself, and is only used in the production of other chemicals for bleaching purposes. Mr. Beck caused much laughter among some of those in court by suggesting that the United Alkali Co. was under the directorship of Brunner, Mond & Co. The witness said he did not think so.

Dr. Otto Hehner said pure soda should contain 97 to 98 per cent. of soda crystals. The sample marked "F. T. W., No. 5" contained 37.29 of soda crystals and 61.87 of Glauber's salt. Such a preparation, he said, was not the result of manufacture; it was a mixture. Had it been crystallised together it could not have been of that composition. He had analysed samples of ordinary washing-soda obtained from the Army and Navy and the Civil Service Stores, and in them there was only 1 or 2 per cent. of sulphate of soda. Witness was cross-examined by Mr. Beck at great length with the view to showing that there are many kinds of soda crystals, and that the term does not appertain solely to carbonate of soda. Mr. Beck instanced seventeen in the British Pharmacopoeia, and Mr. Hehner upset the gravity of the Court by declaring that he knew of between two and three thousand kinds of salts. The Court then adjourned for luncheon.

On resuming Dr. Dupré corroborated Mr. Safford's statement as to his analysis of the sample. He was also subjected to a lengthy cross-examination as to the composition and manufacture of soda crystals.

Mr. Thomas Tyrer, managing director of Thomas Tyrer & Co., Ltd., Stirling Chemical-works, Stratford, was next called, and spoke as to the meaning of the term "soda" or "soda crystals" in the trade. He stated that he had had forty years' practical experience as a manufacturing chemist, and that there was in the trade a recognised article soda or soda crystals, and that any person asking for this article was entitled to be supplied with soda which came up to that recognised standard, and genuine soda crystals should never contain more impurity than 1 or 2 per cent. The value of soda crystals was in quantity over 3l. per ton, whereas Glauber's salt, with which they were adulterated, was only worth about 1l. 14s. per ton, and the latter had no detergent value. It was very difficult for the ordinary purchaser to distinguish the genuine from the adulterated article. The term "soda crystals" had been a recognised trade description to his knowledge for many years, and the sale of adulterated soda was a gross fraud on the general public.

Mr. Charles Unney, managing director of Wright, Layman & Unney, Ltd., wholesale druggists, Southwark, said that he had had over thirty-five years' experience in the wholesale trade, and was well acquainted with the constituents used in the manufacture of soda crystals. He corroborated the evidence of the previous witness as to there being a recognised standard in the trade, and as to the adulteration being a serious fraud on the public.

Mr. J. C. Bumstead, of 36 King William Street, E.C. (D. Bumstead & Co., salt and soda merchants), who stated that he had had fifty years' experience in the salt and soda trade, confirmed the evidence given by the two previous witnesses.

Mr. Safford intimated that he was prepared, if the Bench desired it, to call further evidence to prove the existence of

a recognised standard in the trade, and the Bench intimated that the evidence already before them appeared sufficiently full.

Mr. Beck, for the defence, urged that no case had been made out by the prosecution. To substantiate the charge, the prosecution must prove that defendant, knowingly and wilfully misrepresented the article as soda crystals when he knew it was an adulterated article. He alleged that the case was bolstered up on behalf of Brunner, Mond & Co. The witness Butler had admitted that he acted on their behalf and was in their employ. Defendant did not guarantee the article sold as pure soda crystals. The experts had admitted in cross-examination that there are many kinds of soda crystals, and the article sold by defendant was properly designated as soda crystals. He contended that the case was not taken in the interests of the poor old washerwoman who goes to shop, but in the interests of a manufacturing firm. He went on to express surprise that the Board of Trade had been led to take up such a case in those circumstances, and expressed the opinion that the evidence for the prosecution as regards misrepresentation had failed.

The Magistrates retired to consider their decision, and on returning into Court said that as "soda crystals" is in commerce understood to mean washing-soda they were of opinion that there had been mis-description of the article. There would be a nominal fine of 10s. without costs.

Mr. Beck gave notice of appeal.

Mr. Safford said if there was to be an appeal there ought to be a decision on the other two summonses.

Mr. Beck described it as a monstrous proceeding for the Board of Trade to raise any such point.

At the request of Mr. Safford the Bench adjourned the other cases for one month. The summons against Mr. Holmes was also adjourned.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

#### COMPOUND LIQUORICE POWDER.

RICHARD PERCIVAL RICHES, chemist, Church Street, Preston, appeared at the Preston Police Court on December 9 to answer a summons, taken out at the instance of the Health Committee, for having sold a quantity of compound liquorice powder which on analysis was found to contain 6 per cent. of ground olive-stones.

Mr. Clemesha, on behalf of defendant, pleaded guilty. These proceedings, he said, had been taken under a section under which no provision was made whereby a defendant who erred in ignorance was entitled to escape proceedings against him. The only defence under which he could escape would be by virtue of a written guarantee of purity from the wholesale house. His client had not availed himself of that protection, consequently he found himself in his present position. He (Mr. Clemesha) had seen the wholesale chemists, and they were only recently made aware of the presence of adulteration in the powdered liquorice. The liquorice powder used by defendant in preparing the compound liquorice powder was bought by him two years ago, and at that time the wholesalers were unaware that this quality contained anything it should not have done. It was bought as a second quality, and was ground abroad. The ground liquorice was obtained from Marseilles, the centre of a large olive-oil making industry, and the suggestion was that the foreign manufacturers, having large quantities of olive-stones on hand, had ground them up and sent them to England mixed with the powdered liquorice.

The Bench imposed a fine of 5s. and costs.

#### SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

In Glasgow Sheriff Court on Wednesday, December 14, Dr. George W. Thomson, 10 Watt Street, Paisley Road, was charged, at the instance of the city sanitary authorities, with having sold 3 oz. of sweet spirit of nitre which was deficient in ethyl nitrite to the extent of 38 per cent. Respondent pleaded guilty. He bought the drug, he said, from one of the oldest and largest druggists in the city, with whom he had dealt for over thirty years. They assured him that when they sent the drug out it was of the proper strength, and in the same way he had no reason to

doubt the analyst's report. He was, however, assured that sweet spirit of nitre is highly volatile and very difficult to keep, and that each time the stopper or cork is removed a certain amount of depreciation takes place. Dr. Neilson (Procurator-Fiscal), replying to these remarks, said it is not impossible to maintain the drug up to the pharmacopœial strength. The Corporation's analyst, Mr. Harris, had purchased a sample of sweet spirit of nitre fourteen months ago, and placed it in an ordinary bottle fitted with a cork which was not perfect like the ground-glass stoppers used in chemists' places. No special precautions were taken with the sample—in fact, it received similar treatment to what it might be expected to get in an ordinary shop. On being tested at the end of the fourteen months it was found to approach very nearly the minimum limit of the Pharmacopœia standard, so that with ordinary care it was found at the end of that time to be still up to the standard. Sheriff Millar said this was rather a case of the carelessness with which a drug was kept than of any intention to defraud the public, and he would impose a penalty of 4/-, including expenses.

### Bankruptcies and Failures.

*Re JAMES CRIME*, 315 Bolton Road, Blackburn, Patent-medicine Vendor.—This debtor was allowed to pass his examination at Blackburn Bankruptcy Court on December 7.

*Re JOHN F. SAUNDERS*, 2 Station Parade, Winchmore Hill, formerly of St. John's Hill, Wandsworth, Chemist and Druggist.—The adjourned public examination was fixed for Monday last, at the Edmonton Bankruptcy Court, but, as on the last occasion, the debtor did not put in an appearance. The Registrar said that nothing further had been heard from him since the previous court, when a medical certificate was produced that he was suffering from a chill. The Official Receiver said that he did not know why he was not present. He would write and ask him for an explanation. The hearing was adjourned for that purpose.

*Re JOHN EDMUNDS*, 3 Tower Bridge Road, S.E., and 39 Falmouth Road, Southwark, Chemist.—The public examination of this debtor was held on Thursday, December 15, before Mr. Registrar Hope, at the London Bankruptcy Court, the accounts showing total liabilities 1,486/- 12s. 2d., of which 1,274/- 6s. is expected to rank, against assets valued at 27/- 13s. 10d. The debtor, in reply to Mr. Bowyer, Assistant Receiver, gave an account of his business career, as in the *C. & D.*, December 3, page 900, and denied that he acquired shops as a speculation. He declined to admit knowledge of insolvency in 1893, at which time he had dealt with some twenty-five shops. A shop at 33 High Street, Kingsland Road, valued in January, 1901, at 2,000/-, had been sold to his prospective son-in-law for 800/-. That business had deteriorated greatly since January, 1901, owing to Boots having opened stores immediately opposite. Another business at East Ham, valued at 1,000/- in January, 1901, was sold for 700/- for the same reason. At the date of the receiving order he was only trading at 3 Tower Bridge Road, which business he acquired in June last. In March witness assigned a business at 78 High Street, Kingsland, to his wife, then a creditor for 700/-. In 1871 he handed over a chemist's shop at Loampit Vale, Lewisham, to a trustee for realisation and division among his then creditors, but he could not now say how much they received. In reply to Mr. Carrington (who appeared on his behalf) debtor said he got a fair price for the Kingsland shop. The examination was concluded.

*Re TEMPLAR EDWARD MAINS*, Cardiff, Chemist and Druggist.—Debtor appeared before his Honour Judge Owen at the Cardiff County Court, on December 8, to make application for his discharge. He was represented by Mr. Parsons, barrister, who stated that out of the bankrupt's estate there had already been paid a dividend of 4s. 10d. in the pound, and he was prepared to pay a further sum of 5s. 2/- forthwith, making a total of 10s. in the pound. He was also willing to consent to judgment being entered against him for such a sum as would enable the creditors to be paid the full 20s. Bankrupt, in replying to the Judge, said he was now carrying on business in Queen Street, the rental of his shop and premises being 4/- a week. His net income at present was 426/- per annum. By paying "forthwith," he meant paying within a month. He could not pay before that time as there would be some little difficulty in his getting through a mortgage of property in Woodville Road belonging to his wife. The Official Receiver (Mr. George David) explained that since his bankruptcy Mr. Mains had been carrying on a chemist's business under the name of a limited company, but the business practically belonged to himself and wife. This property



in Woodville Road was originally the bankrupt's, but the equity in redemption was purchased by his wife for 15*l.* from the bankruptcy trustee. The property was subject to two mortgages, one a private mortgage, the other to the bank. The second mortgage had been paid off out of the proceeds of the business in Queen Street, and Mr. Malins had now an opportunity of getting a new mortgage from a different source under which he would receive 200*l.* beyond what would be sufficient to pay off the first mortgage. That 200*l.* the bankrupt proposed to hand over to him (the Official Receiver), together with such further sum as would increase the dividend to 10*s.* in the pound. The total liabilities were about 1,500*l.*, and about 350*l.* has already been paid out of the assets. He thought it would be for the benefit of the creditors if the offer were accepted. His Honour said he would grant the bankrupt immediate discharge, subject to a further composition being paid to make up the 10*s.* in the pound, and to the bankrupt consenting to judgment being entered against him for the remainder of the debts.

On December 9 the Official Receiver stated that on the previous afternoon Mr. Templar Malins had deposited with him the sum of 366*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, which was sufficient without fees to bring up the dividend to 10*s.* in the pound. The hearing was adjourned.

## Gazette.

### Partnerships Dissolved.

**Emmet, J. W., and Newell, P.,** Bexhill, Sussex, physicians and surgeons.

**Gardner, H. G. N., and T'Anson, G. N.,** Hammerfield, Hemel Hempstead, dental-goods manufacturers and commission agents.

**Glenn, C., and Barnes, W. F.,** under the style of the United British Oils and Sundries Co., Merton, Surrey, pharmaceutical oils and chemical sundries manufacturers.

**Nation, E. J., Hockin, F. R., Anstey, W. W., and Head, H. E.,** under the style of E. J. Nation & Co., baking-powder manufacturers, Bristol; so far as regards F. R. Hockin.

**Thew, R., and Stiebel, J. E.,** under the style of Thew & Stiebel, Manchester, Mining Lane, E.C., and Hodden Road, Camberwell, London, S.E., drysalers.

### The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

#### ADJUDICATIONS.

**Dagger, Richard** (known as Richard Reynolds), Burnly, Lancs, herbalist and watch-repairer.

**Dale, Frederick,** Nottingham, surgeon.

**Hicks, Frederick John,** Palace Street, Westminster, lately St. James's Court, Buckingham Gate, S.W., practising there as a medical man.

**Husbands, Herbert Henry,** Nottingham, chemist and druggist.

**Weaver, Thomas,** Reading, mineral-water manufacturer.

## Deeds of Arrangement.

**Illey, John; Joseph,** High Street, Syston, Chemist. Trustee, J. L. Armstrong, 16 Deansgate, Manchester, accountant. Dated, December 1; filed, December 8; liabilities unsecured, 280*l.*; estimated net assets, 300*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors: Baiss Bros. & Stevenson, Ltd., London (15*l.*); Harman Frères, London (20*l.*); Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Leeds (40*l.*); Lloyd, T. H. & Co., Leicester (14*l.*); Oldershaw, Leicester (40*l.*); Samuels, Leicester (46*l.*); Carnell & Son, Leicester (10*l.*); Winton Caven, Leicester (14*l.*); Wheelton, Leicester (12*l.*); Ayrtton, Saunders & Kemp, Ltd., Liverpool (18*l.*).

**Butterworth, Charles,** 20 Carshalton Road, Blackpool, and **Ralph Sidney Alcock,** 7 Alfred Street, Moston, trading at 1 Soap Street, Manchester, as "Butterworth, Alcock & Austin," Druggists and Drysalers. Trustee, Ernest B. Russell, Fennel Street, Manchester, accountant. Dated November 25; filed December 2. Liabilities unsecured, 5,569*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*; estimated net assets, 3,061*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* Among the creditors are: Corneille & Co., Ltd., London (18*l.*); Dunn & Hewitt, London (17*l.*); Evans, Gray & Hood, London (22*l.*); Price's Patent Candle Co., London (12*l.*); Dr. Tibble's Vi-Cocoa Co., Ltd., London (10*l.*); A. Bird & Sons, Birmingham (28*l.*); Cadbury Bros., Ltd., Birmingham (24*l.*); Fardon's Vinegar Co., Ltd., Birmingham (11*l.*); Kaputine Syndicate, Ltd., Huddersfield (12*l.*); Cambrian Vinegar Co., Ltd., Leeds (21*l.*); Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Liverpool (27*l.*); Matchless

Metal-polish Co., Ltd., Liverpool (18*l.*); Salt Union, Ltd., Liverpool (11*l.*); G. Foster Clarke & Co., Maidstone (16*l.*); Bovril, Ltd., Manchester (27*l.*); Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd., Manchester (38*l.*); Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich (10*l.*); J. & J. Colman, Ltd., Norwich (35*l.*); A. J. Caley & Son, Ltd., Norwich (46*l.*); Newball & Mason, Nottingham (10*l.*); Raines & Co., Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees (20*l.*); J. Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., Warrington (49*l.*); Hill, Evans & Co., Ltd., Worcester (11*l.*); Rowntree & Co., Ltd., York (16*l.*); Salt Royal, Ltd., (13*l.*).

## New Companies & Company News.

**CASEY, LTD.**—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 250*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To manufacture and deal in dental appliances, instruments, commodities, and goods, and all dentistry furnishings. Registered office, 98 Trongate, Glasgow.

**J. EDMUNDS & CO., LTD.**—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of chemists, druggists, dealers in photographic apparatus, magic-lantern manufacturers, opticians, etc. The first subscribers are: A. Fugeman, 33 High Street, Kingsland, N.E., clerk; Barbara E. L. Edmunds, 33 High Street, Kingsland, N.E., druggist; O. O. Edmunds, 147 Fore Street, Edmonton, N., Druggist; A. Davidson, 33 High Street, Kingsland, N.E., chemist and druggist; B. P. Burn, 184 Dalston Lane, N.E., chemist and druggist; E. J. Shaw, 44 Crescent Lane, Clapham Park, S.W., clerk; J. R. Dutton, 55 Comerford Road, Brockley, S.E., clerk. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 33 High Street, Kingsland, N.E.

**CENTRAL MEDICAL HALL, LTD.**—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, opticians, food-specialists, drysalers, importers and manufacturers of and dealers in electrical, chemical, photographic, and surgical appliances, etc. The first subscribers (each with one share) are: J. L. McAlister, 18 Exmouth Street, E.C., chemist; Mrs. D. Breese, 79 Mitcham Lane, Streatham, S.W.; C. Breese, 109 Mitcham Lane, Streatham, S.W., chemist; Mrs. M. McAlister, 18 Exmouth Street, E.C.; J. Shepherd, 19 Wells Street, W.C., compositor; G. Philpott, 97 Sussex Road, Holloway, N., compositor; and J. McLaren, 73 Rosebery Avenue, E.C., clerk. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 18 Exmouth Street, E.C.

**G. B. KENT & SONS, LTD.**—The directors have declared a dividend at the rate of 5½ per cent. per annum upon the preference shares of this company, payable on January 2, 1905, for the half-year ended September 30. The transfer-books will be closed from December 18 to December 31.

**LONDON SUPER-AERATION CO., LTD.**—Mr. Justice Warrington, in the Winding-up Court on December 13, had before him a petition for the winding-up of this company. Mr. Atkin, for the petitioner, said a resolution had been passed on the previous day for the voluntary winding-up of the company with a view to reconstruction. Petitioner's case was that the directors were endeavouring to defeat investigation, and he asked that the petition should stand over. Mr. Gore Brown, K.C., for the company, hoped the adjournment would be a short one, so as not to hinder the reconstruction; and his Lordship fixed next Tuesday for the hearing.

**ILFORD, LTD.**—The directors' report for the year ending October 31, to be presented at the annual meeting on December 20, shows the net profits of the year to be 26,496*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, and with 3,254*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* brought forward gives 29,750*l.* 17*s.* for appropriation. This is a considerable reduction in profits, and is due to the larger rates of discount now allowed by the company to photographic dealers. There have also been exceptional expenses in connection with the new factory at Warley. The sales have kept up well, notwithstanding the depressed state of trade in the country. A dividend on the ordinary share capital at the rate of 8 per cent. is recommended, the preference shares receiving 6 per cent.; 5,000*l.* is to be written off goodwill, and 4,000*l.* taken from the reserve fund to meet expenses in connection with the Warley factory. The employees are to receive 670*l.* in connection with the profit-sharing scheme, and the balance (1,480*l.* 17*s.*) is to be carried forward. Mr. A. H. Harman, one of the directors, has resigned owing to ill health, and it is not proposed to fill up the vacancy.

**CAMWAL, LTD.**—The annual general meeting of shareholders was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on December 13, Mr. Horace Davenport, chairman of directors, presiding. In moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet (*C. & D.*, December 10, page 944) the Chairman said he had nothing special to speak of. The board had refrained from pushing out in new directions, having regard to the



depressed condition of trade generally, and as the weather had been good during the past summer he was able to congratulate the shareholders on a satisfactory year's trading. A telegram had been received stating that "Fontalis" had been awarded a bronze medal by the Sanitary Institute. This showed the value of the natural water they had acquired, and which, he regretted, was not being pushed by members as it ought to be. During the year a competition for chemists had been instituted, but it had not been taken up with the spirit that was expected. It was satisfactory, however, to find that there were at least 238 sporting members of the association who had gone in for it. The increased profits had during the year been secured chiefly by the strictest economy being exercised in the working of the company. Many of the directors had not taken the full fees to which they were entitled, and they had not been able to treat the staff so well in the way of bonuses as they would have liked. Another pleasing feature was the enthusiastic report Dr. Thresh had given of the examination of the water obtained from the company's well in London. This water had been obtained after sinking about 400 feet. Mr. John H. Wilson (Harrogate), in seconding the motion, said that "Fontalis" had been submitted to a stringent biological and chemical examination by the Sanitary Institute experts, and he thought the shareholders had much reason for congratulation on the result. Mr. Theophilus Nicholls congratulated the directors on the careful way in which they had conserved the business during the past year, and on the satisfactory dividend they had declared. With regard to the analysis of the water from their well he thought the report should be printed in a pamphlet or circular and sent to members. He had found no aerated waters that in his experience approached the Camwal waters in their splendid sparkling condition. He thought the price of "Fontalis" was against its popularity. The motion was carried *nem. con.* The Chairman then announced that Messrs. Goldfinch and Kemp retired from the board of directors, but offered themselves for re-election. Mr. Edwards proposed that Mr. F. W. Warren, chemist and druggist, of Harrow Road, W., be elected a director of the company. There were none of the directors that directly represented the London trade, and he thought the infusion of new blood would be beneficial to the company generally. Mr. J. C. Fell seconded, and a ballot was taken, which resulted as follows: Harry Kemp, 28; George Goldfinch, 18; F. W. Warren, 12. Messrs. Kemp and Goldfinch were thereupon declared elected. Mr. Edwards afterwards inquired whether it would be in order for him to move that Mr. Warren be appointed an extra member of the board. After consulting the articles of association, the Chairman ruled that such a motion was quite in order. A seconder having been found, Mr. Warren was invited to speak. He stated that he was quite willing to stand. He had no personal reason, but Mr. Edwards and others seemed to think more representative men were required on the board. Mr. E. Whineray moved as an amendment that the number of directors be not increased. On a vote being taken the amendment was carried by 19 to 5. The auditors in London, Leeds, Birmingham, Bristol, and Manchester were re-appointed, and a vote of thanks to the directors terminated the proceedings.

**IDRIS & CO., LTD.**—The annual meeting of shareholders was held at Pratt Street, Camden Town, on December 12. Mr. T. Howell W. Idris, J.P., L.C.C., chairman of directors, presiding. In moving the adoption of the directors' report and balance-sheet (particulars of which were given in last week's issue, page 944), Mr. Idris commented on the various items in the balance-sheet. Leasehold and freehold properties had increased by 7,122*l.* This was accounted for by the building of the new factory at Teddington, a new building in Rochester Mews (let at 170*l.* per annum), portion of cost of buildings at Folkestone, and of boring new well at Pratt Street not taken into consideration in last year's accounts. Capital in branch businesses had increased by 519*l.*, principally owing to stocks of syphons at branches not being returned in time for inclusion in accounts. Stock-in-trade is 2,132*l.* more, nearly 2,000*l.* of which is in a stock of the new solid porcelain-cased syphons. Plant and machinery is not so large an item as last year by 1,196*l.*; goodwill is stationary, with no prospect of increasing. Under "Liabilities" share capital and debenture stock are the same as last year. A new item under this head is the "Sinking Fund, 150*l.*" The auditors thought it time that some such fund should be provided, and they calculate that the putting aside annually of 150*l.* would at 4 per cent. bring back all that had been invested in the whole of the leasehold property and building or freehold properties, in eighty years. The profit for the year (15,344*l.*) was satisfactory in some ways and unsatisfactory in others. It should not be forgotten that the company was capitalised on a profit-sharing basis. The share capital was issued at premium, there was 40,000 reserve on which no premium was paid, and 10,000 special reserves. So that when everything was taken into account it would be found that the average dividend paid by the com-

pany was only a little over 5 per cent. Fortunately, however, the company was not dependent entirely on the mineral-water trade. A thing which militated greatly against the profits was the fact that sugar is almost double the price it was at this time last year. The rise had been greater than anyone anticipated. Last year in anticipation of an advance the company had bought forward, but the price is so much higher now than was looked for that next year's business will be considerably affected. To say, as some defenders of the Convention do, that the rise in price is all a question of supply and demand, is nonsense. The higher prices are forced on the British manufacturer because he is barred out of other markets. In Switzerland manufacturers are buying sugar from Russia and from Argentina as cheap as it was in this country in 1900. The consequence is that in that country British-made machinery is being laid down and large manufacturing concerns opened for the supply of confectionery, jams, biscuits, etc., to markets formerly supplied by British manufacturers. He (the speaker) had said last year that the protection policy in sugar was an insane one, but if one came to the conclusion that it was a reckless conspiracy to rob the people as a whole for the benefit of a few, then it amounted to rascality. He did not say that that term applied to those statesmen who had advocated the policy, but he trusted they now realised that they had made a mistake, and that the burden would be removed from the industry in the near future. The company had been reimbursed for these drawbacks in other ways. The number of employes had been reduced by about 10 per cent.; and the directors were hopeful of doing something out of the new solid porcelain-headed syphon, covered with aluminium—the only perfect non-metallic syphon that had ever been produced. They also hoped to be able to effect a saving in other products, not so costly as sugar, which may be cheapened by means of improved chemical processes. Mr. Adpar Jones seconded the motion. Mr. Hick asked whether the increased price of sugar was not due in a great measure to the failure of the beet-crop. The Chairman replied that after the abolition of the bounty the inducement to plant beet was not so great, and it was in some measure abandoned. In his opinion the convention was entirely responsible for the increase in price. The cheapening of sugar had, of course, increased its consumption in France by something like 40 to 50 per cent. The convention gave sugar at about 2*l.* per lb. cheaper to the Frenchman, about 1½*l.* per lb. cheaper to the German, and ½*l.* to 1*l.* per lb. dearer to the Englishman. In reply to other questions, the Chairman said bounty sugar had shown a steady decline, but directly the convention was mooted it began to rise in price and has risen since. It never had been so dear. In 1889 there was a spasmodic rise to about 17*s.*, but at the present time the price for the quality bought by the company was about 21*s.* 3*d.* to 22*s.* The motion was carried unanimously. Mr. W. Adpar Jones and Mr. James Bradfield were re-elected directors, and Messrs. Arthur J. Hill, Vellacott & Co. were re-appointed auditors.

## Business Changes.

MR. J. E. ROBERTSON, chemist and druggist, late of Gloucester, is opening a business at Keynsham, Somerset.

MR. H. LESTER, chemist and druggist, has opened a new business at High Street, Newhall, near Burton-on-Trent.

MESSRS. MATTHEWS & SON, chemists, will shortly open premises at Cranbrook Parade, Cranbrook Road, Iford, E.

MR. W. SHAW, pharmaceutical chemist, has taken over the business of Mr. G. H. Fisher, 53 King's Road, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. JAMES BELL, formerly of Hastings, has acquired the business of the late Mr. F. G. Deacon, chemist and druggist, Southsea. [Corrected notice.]

MESSRS. TIMMIS & GOULD, chemists, have acquired the business lately carried on by Mr. E. H. James, chemist and druggist, at High Street, Ealing, W.

MR. R. A. CRIPPS, F.I.C., pharmaceutical chemist, has removed from Hayward's Heath to more convenient premises at D'Avigdor Road, Hove, Sussex.

MESSRS. GUTTRIDGE & PILCHER, chemists, Ashford, have acquired the business at 4 Harbour Street, Folkestone, formerly carried on by Mr. Alfred T. Riley.

MR. ANDRE ICARD, opium-merchant, of Smyrna, has given his signature of procuracy to Mr. Tony J. Mainetty, who has been associated with him in the business.

The chemist and druggist's business which has been carried on for over fifty years at 63 St. Sepulchre Gate, Doncaster, latterly under the style of W. Slack's executors, is being offered for sale.



## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

### Mr. Boanerges Brown

made a reputation a few years ago by a contribution to a local association entitled "What we are Coming to." He showed with truculent vigour that if the Pharmaceutical Society and The Chemist and Druggist and the Government did not wake up pretty soon, the pharmacist, the highly educated pharmacist, would drop to the level of the mere grocer. There was a good deal of "Lo, the poor grocer" about the paper. He argued that as the Government had compelled us to pass an examination it was responsible for our subsequent success. It was only necessary to present this view to Parliament and it would be at once admitted. He himself had explained this to a Member of Parliament and the M.P. had promptly agreed with him. If the Pharmaceutical Council had only common sense it would adopt his opinion. Mr. Brown makes a speciality of common sense. The late Bishop Creighton, by the way, said common sense is always in contradiction to true knowledge. If not always, it often is. Common sense assures us that the sun goes round the earth; true knowledge disputes that view. But to return to Mr. Boanerges Brown. I asked him the other day how he regarded

### The Surrender of Clause 7.

To my surprise he approved of its abandonment. "It is quite right," he said. "What else could they do? I always said it was ridiculous to try to pass any such clause through the British Parliament, and they have only fooled away two blessed Sessions in the attempt. Would I let companies go on defying the Pharmacy Act as they please, then? That is a foolish question. Of course not. They ought to have been stopped twenty years ago. How? Why, easily enough. All that is wanted is to strike off the register every qualified person who serves them, and the thing is done. Could they carry on their businesses without the aid of these traitors? No, I don't want any of your 'Yes-buts.' Can't you give a plain answer to a plain question, Yes or No?" I tried again to get a little innings, but Boanerges said I was an advocate for the companies, and he supposed I got something out of them.

### The late Dr. Hoffmann

whose career and character were so sympathetically sketched by Dr. F. B. Power last week, was one of the very few pharmacists who fulfil the ideal of the books. I almost qualified the "very few" by "fortunately," for indeed there is not room for many such. To Dr. Hoffmann pharmacy was a religion. His conscience abhorred the trade contamination which, as he once told me, was affecting it even in Germany, and which I should have expected he might also have noticed during his thirty-four years' residence in the United States. His journal, the "Pharmaceutische Rundschau," I suppose, never once recognised the trade side of pharmacy at all. I have known other foreign pharmacists almost as impervious to the New York atmosphere as Frederick Hoffmann. Creuse, a Frenchman, edited the New York "Druggists' Circular" for twenty years, and remained to the end almost as unspotted in his pharmaceutical character. Charles Rice, too, whose remarkable attainments were mentioned in this journal recently, was the same kind of man. The Anglo-Saxon pharmacist seems to avoid that tendency very successfully. If Mr. Rice was not born in Germany, he was of German parentage. His name was originally spelled Reis.

### The Secret-medicine Trade

will be hit rather hard by the new attack which the "British Medical Journal" has opened against it. Medical practitioners are fully justified in seeking to know the real nature of the remedies which are so often vaunted to the public as far superior to the old-fashioned stuff which they supply to their patients. One of the epileptic medicines reported on in the "B. M. J.'s" first article claims that its principal ingredient is to be found in nearly every surgery, though not one doctor in a hundred would think of using it in epilepsy. That is a direct challenge to the medical profession, and the proprietors of the medicine thus recommended can hardly complain of the response. The "principal drug" referred to is, according to the "B. M. J.," analysis, bromide of potassium. In that case, therefore, the practice of medicine is not specially enlightened. But the medical critics are not always quite fair to their secret-medicine coadjutors or rivals, whichever they may please to term them. A considerable proportion of the formulas which have found their way into official Pharmacopœias, perhaps many more than we know of, have been first introduced as imitations of proprietary articles, some secret, others which only claim to be specially prepared. Tr. benz. co., tr. sennæ co., tr. chloroform. et morph., tr. opii, liquor arsenicalis, pulv. antim. co., lin. saponis, lin. opii, lin. terebinth., lin. camph. co., liq. potass. permangan., conf. pip. nig., paraffinum molle, charta sinapis, ung. hyd. nit. ox., ung. calamin., and nearly all the concentrated liquors fall into this category. Moreover, the remedial virtues of such drugs as ipecacuanha, aloes, mercury, opium, antimony, and magnesia were either made known or largely proved by means of nostrums. Even some of these bromide mixtures for epilepsy may have been offered before the medical profession adopted the drug generally. Bromide had been employed for thirty years or more for whooping-cough, tuberculosis, and as a hypnotic before it was even thought of for epilepsy.

### When You Publish your Autobiography

at a cost of 200l.  
you naturally wish to make as good a show as is possible for the money. Mr. Boot evidently felt this when he compiled his advertisement for last Saturday's "Times." It must be admitted that he wrestled fairly successfully with his native modesty. It would be interesting to know how that advertisement affected the highly intelligent readers of the "Times." Surely the monotonously repeated depreciation of "the ordinary chemist," "the small chemist," "the old-fashioned chemist," which ran through it must have grated on the innate good taste of thousands of readers. It is an axiom with advertising experts that attacks on rivals do at least as much injury to yourself as to them. Most readers of the "Times" appreciate the difference between company and individual supervision of businesses. They will estimate at their proper value such assertions as that "Boots' drugs must be in a better condition than those of a small dispensing chemist," and that "customers of Boots' drug department are assured of better drugs than can be offered by any other firm." Nor can educated people miss the fallacy of the economic claims put forward. Boots buy cod-liver oil in Norway, says the advertisement, and therefore having to pay only one profit they must be able to sell it cheaper than the ordinary chemist can. This is nonsense. The oil passes through just the same number of hands as when it reaches the so-called ordinary chemist. The only difference is that Boots' Pure Drug Co. is the wholesale house to Boots' shops. But that company wants a profit as much as any other wholesale firm.

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## Editorial Comments.

### "Soda Crystals."

PROSECUTIONS under the Merchandise-marks Act for the sale of a mixture of sodium carbonate and sulphate as "soda" or "soda crystals" are of peculiar interest, because if the practice of selling such mixtures is not checked soon, ere long "soda" and "soda crystals" will mean sodium sulphate with a dash of carbonate. The Board of Trade are quite right in taking action, especially since the defence appears to lay stress on the argument that it is because the sale of the mixture of carbonate and sulphate is inimical to the interests of a so-called monopoly that action is taken at all. In this matter we speak for wholesale and retail chemists, and we venture to say that not one of the many thousands of them could swear that the public mean the sulphate mixture when they ask for "soda" or "soda crystals." The former term is indifferently applied to caustic soda, washing-soda (the carbonate), and sodium bicarbonate, but it is universally known in this country that "washing-soda" and "soda crystals" are crystallised forms of sodium carbonate containing traces of impurities and water of crystallisation. As has previously been stated in these columns it has been known in the chemical-trade for some time that sodium sulphate, a cheap, particularly useless, and almost unsaleable by-product, has been getting an outlet among dealers in domestic articles. It is utilised for mixing with ordinary washing-soda as produced by Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., and the United Alkali Co., Ltd., or other makers, no attempt being made to recrystallise them together. One result of the occasional use of such stuff has been that housewives have had to use more of it to produce the accustomed effect—a fact of which they are not always conscious, and when they happen to return to the real article, using it as freely, they get a much stronger lye, thus hurting both skin and clothes. But it is deception rather than injury which justifies the Board of Trade's action in the matter. We do not think retailers have wilfully deceived; perhaps some have bought very cheaply without inquiring as to why prices have been so low, but such cases as those at Tunbridge Wells will serve to put retailers on their guard. The next thing will be to get at the wholesalers, and especially the manufacturers, of the mixed article. It is the latter who are the real sinners, and who make most by the practice, and if they are not checked it will be possible to prove in a few years that the article commonly sold as "soda crystals" and "washing-soda" is that which we now know not to be either.

### South African Trade.

On several occasions lately we have had evidence from our South African correspondents that the condition and prospects of trade in our Colonies are improving, and we have confirmation of this in a report by the Board of Trade correspondent at Port Elizabeth (Mr. J. S. Neave), who says that although the period of depression is ended and



large quantities of surplus military stores in the Transvaal and elsewhere are still being worked off at low prices, and thus keeping imports down, steady indenting is going on for all classes of machinery and mining wants, and for foodstuffs, soft goods, and so on. These imports are mostly going up through Natal and Delagoa Bay. Merchants notice a slow but steady improvement in trade, says Mr. Neave. Orders are small, but more frequent, and it would appear that this retail ordering is becoming more and more the nature and class of business that is to be done. By reason of the advent to South Africa of representatives of all classes of trade from all parts of the world, the up-country traders, large and small, are brought into direct communication with the manufacturers and exporters, the coast ports, which in former years used to do most of this supplying, becoming in a great measure merely forwarding agencies. Added to this, the quick and certain facilities of transport, both by sea and by the extension of railways, result in the ordering of only such quantities as are immediately required, and do away with the former speculative large ordering for estimated requirements. As to the trade of Cape Colony the Controller of Customs, Mr. A. H. Wilshire, has prepared an exhaustive report on the Customs Transactions and Customs Convention which became law on August 15, 1903. It will be remembered that this Convention introduced the principle of preferential treatment with Great Britain by a rebate of 25 per cent., with certain qualifications. Mr. Wilshire says:

The difference in favour of British goods . . . must have resulted in a large amount of business being placed in the United Kingdom instead of foreign countries. This, however, may be expected to wane in the face of hard business competition, and I fear the difference is not in itself sufficient to permanently divert new business into British channels. Every effort will be made by foreigners, by reducing the cost of manufacture and carriage to ports of shipment and also by cheaper sea freight than can be procured from the U.K., to nullify the 25 per cent. preference on British goods.

In order to meet this foreign competition the Controller suggests that the preference should not be given indiscriminately as at present, but that a tariff dealing with such a rebate should be framed by a small committee of experts, whose duty it would be to ascertain in what particular items British trade is handicapped, with a view to granting a substantial rebate on these items. As Mr. Wilshire is a high permanent official, it seems to us that a suitable opportunity is here presented for invoking his aid on behalf of our export druggists, especially as he shows a painstaking desire to find out the weak spots in the preferential treatment. We do not, of course, forget that Mr. Wilshire had much to do with the attempt to extend the Cape tincture-duty to other Colonies, and his failure to secure this may not have favourably disposed him to our export druggists. He reports that the regulations in connection with the new tariff have on the whole worked smoothly and well, but as yet there is not sufficient evidence to show that the cost of living in South Africa has been permanently reduced, owing to the abnormal conditions prevailing as a result of the war. On the subject of the large quantities of surplus stocks sold by the Imperial Military Authorities the Controller is discreetly silent, beyond mentioning the fact that the duty received from these sales last year amounted to almost 75,000*l.* These figures speak for themselves. Cape Colony has now abolished the "in transit" duty levied on direct importations and goods cleared ex bond for consumption in the Transvaal. In return for this the Transvaal Administration agreed to admit free of duty all goods and articles produced by Cape Colony, excepting spirits, which were excluded

because the Transvaal prohibits distillation within its borders. On four months' working the Colony estimate they have lost 30,000*l.* in duties, but they are more than compensated by the free admission of Cape products and manufactures into the Transvaal. Mr. Wilshire places the imports of Cape Colony last year at 49,842,000*l.*, including gold, diamonds, and specie, and the exports at 35,736,000*l.* These returns show an increase over those for 1902, but the increase is principally due to the abnormal conditions that obtained during 1900-2, and during the greater part of 1903. From the returns we have compiled a statement of exports and imports which are of interest to the drug-trade, and this we append:

*Exports.*

—	1902	1903	1902	1903
	Lbs.	Lbs.	£	£
Aloes ... ..	300,757	327,772	2,040	3,331
Argol ... ..	62,964	88,334	1,234	1,675
Buchu-leaves ... ..	161,570	232,454	4,155	8,055
"Gum" ... ..	736	1,195	17	23
Honey ... ..	3,685	—	52	—
Quince-seed ... ..	2,110	2,354	79	77
Wax, bees' ... ..	6,082	2,802	405	143
Drugs and chemicals ...	—	—	1,698	2,571

*Imports.*

—	1902	1903	1902	1903
			£	£
Drugs and chemicals—				
Acid, acetic ... gals.	12,450	8,906	1,955	1,611
" sulphuric ... lbs.	523,232	909,649	2,901	3,552
Cyanide of potas. "	2,001,403	1,073,820	84,614	41,877
Drugs, other ... "	—	—	332,564	303,720
Instruments, surgical...	—	—	10,537	12,996
Photo material ... "	—	—	58,929	50,896
Turpentine ... gals.	91,114	106,543	12,835	15,957
Quicksilver ... lbs.	29,577	27,426	3,709	3,711
Saltpetre... ..	11,272,240	—	43,826	—
Sulphur, flowers of, cwt.	14,683	56,285	6,532	18,932
" rock ... lbs.	5,432	5,060,000	26	9,487
Soda, caustic ... "	—	—	7,247	6,793
Soap, common ... lbs.	22,858,565	16,885,659	203,622	149,006
" extracts and powder, "	—	—	1,806	1,165
" other than common, "	571,570	466,491	32,573	23,777
Sheep-dip ... "	—	—	£3,294	73,408
Oil, castor ... gals.	111,177	63,870	16,841	10,293
" linseed ... "	239,279	311,351	33,440	35,253
" olive ... "	7,484	4,429	1,319	685
" palm ... "	23,136	47,698	2,718	5,078
Glycerin ... lbs.	461,798	2,056,036	13,247	48,803
Tamarinds ... "	128,344	115,531	337	403
Spirits ... gals.	1,123,369	679,386	550,233	332,907
Seed, canary ... lbs.	717,479	614,845	5,225	5,335
Spices ... "	941,918	824,583	27,370	22,325
Saccharin... ..	7,497	9,675	2,617	2,472
Perfumery ... "	—	—	30,737	27,770
Oils, essential and per-				
fumed ... "	—	—	4,417	4,192
Oil, salad... ..	49,365	62,325	12,916	14,310
Glucose ... lbs.	2,080,741	1,917,439	10,969	8,815
Honey ... "	133,941	25,348	3,394	673

**Industrial Alcohol Inquiry.**

MANY of the witnesses who have been examined by the Committee charged with this subject have been struck by the apparently hostile attitude of Dr. T. E. Thorpe, a member of the Committee, to suggestions that British industries have been handicapped by the stringent conditions on which alcohol is permitted to be used. The same attitude has been observed when the advantages enjoyed by Continental manufacturers have been pointed out. Those who were examined on Tuesday had a rather warm time, but on the whole the cause of chemical and pharmaceutical manufactures did not suffer at their hands.

Mr. David Howard showed what are the alcohol requirements in the production of alkaloids and other fine chemicals, and how unsuited methylated spirit is, both as to quality and price, for the manufacture of many of them. Mr. Webb's evidence was directed chiefly to show how our export manufacturers are blocked, even in British markets abroad, because fiscal restrictions in this country increase the cost of production. Mr. J. C. Umney spoke particularly about pharmaceutical manufactures in which spirit is used, and pleaded for a wider range of denaturing agents other than wood naphtha as well as less costly inspection when pure spirit is used under bond. The evidence, which has come from all quarters, more than justifies the demand for inquiry, and has proved that many of our native industries are imperilled through deficient fiscal facilities, but Dr. Thorpe has elicited from several witnesses that our competitors abroad have more consistently employed advanced scientific methods. This, however, has by no means been generally agreed. The Committee will continue its sittings throughout next month, and it is particularly desirable that any interests who wish to put their views before the Committee should communicate with Mr. Cunningham, the Secretary (Board Room, Somerset House, W.C.) without delay. It is too soon to foreshadow what the recommendations of the Committee will be, but it is not unlikely that the majority will recommend a greater variety of denatured spirit at a cheaper rate, and it is probable that the carrying-out of this will be passed on to the next Government.

#### "A Question of Ethics."

is the title which the "Lancet" of December 10 gives to its third editorial. This is a column and a half of inconsequent chaff on Mr. R. B. Betty's motion at the meeting of the L.C.A. on November 23, which, by the way, was defeated. Our learned contemporary practically argues against change in the relations between medical men and chemists, and seems oblivious of the fact that this condition in England and Wales is exceptional. The argument is unworthy of the "Lancet's" best traditions.

#### Irish Drug-contracts.

The question of obtaining tenders for the supply of drugs to the Boards of Guardians in Ireland is reaching an acute stage. As we indicated last week, English drug-houses are being invited to tender, and this seems to be because the Irish houses, finding that the discounts they must allow off the published list leave no profit on the transaction, are abstaining from tendering. After allowing 40 per cent. discount off the prescribed prices and paying carriage on the drugs to the Union and again on the empty bottles to the contractor, the profit is ?l. ?s. ?d. In case of the loss of packages there is not much sympathy shown by the medical officers or hope of recovering the price from the Guardians. There is a point beyond which competition becomes insane, and that point seems to have been reached in the case of these Irish contracts.

#### "The Year-book of Pharmacy"

is well up to time, as a copy reached us in the early part of this week. This volume, the official publication of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, follows the lines of previous years in that it is divided into sections on chemistry, materia medica, pharmacy, notes and formulae, and the report of the proceedings. The space occupied by the sections is as a rule smaller than in the preceding year, a corresponding condensation of the book resulting; we would suggest that less space should be devoted to the more technical papers which have been published in home journals, and more to those of foreign origin—not

necessarily fuller abstracts but more of them. A portrait of Mr. S. R. Atkins, a veteran Vice-President, is given as a frontispiece. The Notes and Formulae section is rather scratchy, and the Editor is wrong in saying that they "are derived almost entirely from foreign sources." We have counted forty-six formulae for perfumes taken bodily from our "Pharmaceutical Formulas" and conveyed *via* the "Spatula" and "Pharmaceutical Journal" into the "Year-book." To what extent this sort of thing is carried on we have not attempted to ascertain, but it is not a practice of which any of the participators need be proud, although probably some of them are. The "Year-book" is published by Messrs. J. & J. Churchill at 10s.

#### Temper-powders.

Sir Lauder Brunton, M.D., has written to the medical papers explaining that he did not give the "House Beautiful" the information about temper-powders which we reprinted a fortnight ago; it was culled from a medical communication of his published some years ago! This does not prevent "Punch" from devoting a column to "the Panacea." It is in rhyme beginning

When you pull up the blind in the morning to find  
That the fog is as thick as it's yellow.

The narrative proceeds through many lines on the ills that flesh and the temper are heir to as far as

When your typist's afraid if her wages aren't paid  
That the office won't see her to-morrow—  
Do not fume like a dunce; take your powder at once,  
And your face will no longer look horrid,  
While the remnants of hair you were going to tear  
Will be left still adorning your forehead.

After this the trudge through the mud to the train, and the coming home in the evening to find the housemaid fled with one of her numerous cousins, bring a condition

When there's nothing to eat but a bit of raw meat  
And a packet of somebody's mustard.

When the wife of your breast has confessed she has dressed  
On just triple the sum you allowed her,  
And has run up long bills for her frocks and her frills—  
Take a powder, my friend—take a powder.

There are more things in this week's "Punch" which appeal to the chemist. "The return of the specialist" shows Dr. Ch-mb-rl-n greeting Dr. Ch-pl-n when he calls again to see Mr. British Trade "in a deplorably robust condition" busy in the sick-room punching a ball. Following this is an article on Mr. Balfour's Garden quite in "Gardeners' Chronicle" style; and the Science Notes by Professor Job Lott are almost amusing.

#### Plucked Pigeon.

There appears to be terrible eagerness at Bloomsbury Square to get rid of the Directors Clause of the Pharmacy Bill as it stands. It has been stated, apparently with authority, that the Bill was the subject of discussion at a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee after the Council last week, and

it was decided to modify Clause 7 in such a manner as will, it is hoped, render it acceptable to the Government, though the Privy Council will be informed that the Clause as it now stands reflects the views of the Society as to what might reasonably be granted by the Legislature. The clause as amended will provide that, in the case of limited companies, the director actually responsible for the conduct of the business of a chemist and druggist must be duly qualified under the Pharmacy Acts.

This statement in the official publication will be rather embarrassing to the Pharmaceutical Council when it comes to consider what the Parliamentary Committee advises, especially when it is ascertained that the committee's decision last week did not take the definite shape represented above. It should be more generally understood that all



that has been done up, to the present is as between a gentleman in Bloomsbury and another in Whitehall, neither of whom is yet in a position to pledge the acquiescence of his colleagues. Although the matter has not yet formally come before the Pharmaceutical Council as a body, it would not be surprising if they find themselves in a position which leaves them no option but to give in.

### The Wholesaler's Responsibility.

This is the interesting topic upon which Mr. J. C. Umney is to speak before the Western Chemists' Association next Wednesday evening, and it should draw a goodly company, for it should embrace several matters of common interest to retailers and wholesalers. In this connection we may recall the article in our issue of October 8, entitled "The Retailer's Responsibility," the essential part of which was in the following sentences:

It is legally the fact that wholesalers are not called upon to stand by anything supplied by them more than six months ago, and although hitherto they have not, except in regard to perishable articles, refused to assist their clients when adulteration is alleged, the line is certain to be drawn somewhere. For this reason we suggest that retail chemists should, as men with a quasi-professional qualification, realise that their personal responsibility is an obligation which cannot be transferred to others.

So far as the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts are concerned this will probably be one of Mr. Umney's topics, but there are other trade responsibilities the incidence of which has been shifting of recent years, and it ought to be profitable to have an evening's discussion on them. The committee of the W.C.A. ask us to invite the presence of any in the trade who are interested. For place and time, see "Coming Events."

### Aerated-water Trade and Sugar.

It will be noticed that Mr. T. H. W. Idris, at a meeting of the company of which he is chairman, made some remarks on the heavy manner in which the sugar-tax and the Brussels Sugar Convention have pressed upon the aerated-water industry. Mr. Richard Johnson, President of the National Union of Mineral-water Manufacturers, has written to the "Times" on the subject. In the course of his letter he mentions the following facts about a firm which is, he says, typical of three thousand others in this country:

A large mineral-water firm in London, whose ordinary shares are half a million in value, and which shares always paid a dividend, varying from 6 to 10 per cent. per annum, before the imposition of the sugar-tax, have not paid any dividend since. Before 1901 substantial sums were also placed to reserve account. The wages account has been reduced 20,000*l.* per annum, and one factory, where 300*l.* per week was paid in wages, has been closed altogether. Out of 400 workmen 100 have been discharged, and these men earned over 3*l.* per week all the year round. The sugar-tax costs this firm alone 30,000*l.* per annum. Before the imposition of the tax and the ratification of the Brussels Convention the firm paid 11*s.* 3*d.* per cwt. for sugar; last week they paid 22*s.* 6*d.*

These facts are no secret, and have long been the subject of conversation among aerated-water manufacturers.

### Valued Contributors.

We beg to assure our *confrère* out West that the honour of contributing to the *C. & D.* does not belong solely to Mr. Glyn-Jones. Among the No. 17 people whom we have ranked as contributors are the present editor of the Society's journal and two of his assistants, the President and several Past-Presidents, quite a number of Councilors, and most of the professors. We valued their communications, and they, we understood, considered they were promoting the interests of pharmacy by giving us of their wisdom.

## Festivities.

### A Harrogate Smoker.

A SMOKING-CONCERT was held in connection with the Harrogate Pharmaceutical Association at the Salisbury Hotel, Harrogate, on December 9. There were present Messrs. Weston (President), Handford (Secretary), Payton, Mitchell, Eynon, Halliday, Lawrence, Cocroft, Hines, Whaler, Harper, Sol Taylor, Southwell, Atkinson, and Kirk. Songs, recitations, etc., were contributed by Messrs. Weston, Mitchell, Taylor, Atkinson, Hines, Lawrence, and Handford. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

### West Ham Chemists' Association.

A VERY successful smoking-concert was held in the Earlham Hall, Forest Gate, on December 9. Mr. J. H. Matthews (President) occupied the chair, and was supported by a good attendance of members and friends. The Chairman in his opening remarks drew attention to the applications lying on the table for a closing order under the Shop-hours Act, 1904. It had been decided at the last meeting of the Association to make application, and all those in favour were asked to sign the petitions to the West Ham Council and the Leyton Urban District Council. An excellent entertainment was given.

### Birmingham Smoking-concert

A SUCCESSFUL smoking-concert in connection with the Midland Pharmaceutical Association was held on December 13 at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham. The attendance was good, and in the course of the evening the Chairman (Mr. J. Wakefield) invited opinions on the subject of early closing. Personally he had no definite opinion. Mr. Charles Thompson was in favour of the Wednesday half-holiday being retained, and he had the support of Mr. J. Poole. Mr. F. H. Alcock took a contrary view. He quite favoured a holiday for chemists, but as a matter of principle he urged that they should not bind themselves to any specific day. Mr. Hampton (Leicester) was emphatic in favour of chemists having the same holiday as the shopkeepers in their respective localities. No resolution was taken, but the feeling of the meeting seemed to be in favour of the half-holiday being retained at present.

### A Bradford Social,

A most enjoyable "social" in connection with the Bradford and District Chemists' Association was held at the Royal Hotel, Bradford, on December 13, when Alderman Dunn discharged the duties of chairman over a large gathering, which embraced many representatives of kindred societies; the Leeds visitors included Messrs. Pilkington Sargeant, Beacock, and Preston. Mr. Priestley (Secretary) and the other organisers of the entertainment had provided a most attractive programme, and the result was a general desire that another "evening out" on similar lines should be organised at an early date. Among those who contributed to the harmony of the evening were Messrs. Hanson, Mackay, Bailes, J. Shaw, Edmondson, Eckersley, and Watson. Messrs. Dutton (violin) and R. T. Silson (viola) combined successfully to add to the evening's enjoyment. The pianists were Mr. Hanson and Mr. H. Taylor.

### Notts Chemists' Dance.

THE first annual dance organised by the Notts Chemists' Association, with the double object of providing enjoyment for the members and at the same time benefiting the Benevolent Fund, took place on December 9, at Calvert's Café, Long Row, Nottingham. The gathering, which was of a highly successful and enjoyable character, was largely attended, among the sixty or seventy present being Mr. R. and the Misses Fitzhugh, Mr. Mrs., and the Misses Wilson, Mr. F. Ross Sergeant, Mr. C. A. and the Misses Bolton, Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, Mr. Mrs. and the Misses Widdowson, Mr. and the Misses Parkes, Mr. R. H. Beverley, Mr. T. L. Beverley, Miss Beverley, and Mr. A. Middleton. There were twenty dances on the programme, and midway through a *recherché* supper was served in a room adjacent to the ballroom. The M.C.s were Mr. C. F. Carr and Mr. G. J. R. Parkes, and they had the assistance of Messrs. A. E. Eberlin, T. Freeman, H. C. Prince, F. R. Sergeant, E. W. Whitchurch, and T. Wilson, in the capacity of stewards.

## Winter Session.

### Association Ballad.

#### THE PURPOSE.

*The men, their aims, their daily irk;  
Their troubles, trials, thoughts, and views  
On things politic, foes that lurk  
In friendly guise, but treach'rous work—  
These be the burden of our Muse.*

#### XLIX.—LONDON (DRUG CLUB).

Now, unless you've been bred in the wholesaler's ranks,  
And can prove in a manner conclusive  
You were nurtured on aloes and swaddled in tanks  
Full of ethers and esters elusive,  
Your request for admission is sent back "With thanks,"  
For our Club is so very exclusive.

You must wear a silk hat, and must saunter "on 'Change,"  
And give tongue in the Lane (that is, Mining);  
You must haunt Number Ten, and be always in range  
When the broker's remarks are convincing;  
You must shun senna-leaves that are spotted with mange  
And pay for experience, unwincing.

You must learn how to make a pure extract of malt,  
Pills, and tablets, and tinctures, and ever  
So many more things, without flaw, without fault,  
Shedding guarantees without a quiver;  
And the oil that you sell you must swear, on your vault,  
Is expressed from a newly caught liver.

There are many more duties wholesalers perform,  
And patient and tough their endurance;  
Like the milky-white juice of the colchicum-corm,  
Their experience is bitter; insurance  
'Gainst poison or pilfering shelters the storm,  
But it keeps giddy frolic in durance.

Our bi-annual meets are not joy unalloyed:  
Full many heart-throbbings we ferret,  
And our grievances fill up the Vast and the Void:  
But they leave us not lacking in merit.  
So by President Baiss and by Harvey we're buoyed  
Into glee; and by Unney the able decoyed  
Into dreaming of duty-free spirit.

### Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations.

A MEETING of the Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, December 7, in the Holborn Restaurant, High Holborn, London, W.C., when all the members were present—viz., Mr. W. L. Currie, Glasgow (Chairman); Mr. H. Antcliffe, Sheffield; Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, Gravesend; Mr. H. Wippell Gadd, Exeter; Mr. W. Watson-Will (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer). A considerable amount of business was transacted. The committee passed a resolution recommending that all associations should petition in favour of the Weights and Measures (Metric System) Bill as of vital importance to the interests of this country. They also had under consideration the arrangements for the next annual meeting and the matter of "breaking bulk" of stamped medicines, and a statement regarding the same will be forwarded to all affiliated associations for their consideration.

### Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE meeting of this Association called for December 8 was not held, as the lecturer, Mr. C. A. Swan, M.B., had gone to Paris.

### Stockport Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on Wednesday evening, December 7, Mr. William Dodge (President) in the chair. After the ordinary business had been transacted, Mr. Orrell read a paper on the costing of "poisons." Mr. Dodge hoped there would be a better attendance at next meeting, as that will be for the election of officers.

### Huddersfield Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Queen's Hotel on Thursday evening, Mr. R. C. Walshaw presiding. Mr. R. Broadhead, of Batley, was to have introduced a discussion on

the question of titles, but owing to the presence of Mr. R. A. Robinson, sen., in accordance with the Pharmaceutical Council's resolution on organisation, Mr. Broadhead preferred that he should open the debate, and Mr. Broadhead put questions to him. These the President replied to, and he was cordially thanked by the meeting. Thirteen gentlemen were present.

### Irish Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

THE usual weekly meeting of this Association was held on December 9 at the Nelson Café, 33 Lower Sackville Street Dublin. Owing to the weather the attendance was but meagre, and little beyond formal business was transacted. Thanks were accorded to Messrs. Lorimer & Co., Islington, for their cheque of one guinea, and the firm were elected honorary members.

### Eastbourne Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held on December 13, at the Royal Restaurant, when Mr. Harmer was re-elected President, and Mr. Price was elected Vice-President. Mr. Browne was re-elected Treasurer and Mr. Gibbs Hon. Secretary; and Messrs. Senior, F. Temple, and Marchant were elected members of the committee. It was thought that the year's work of the Association had been satisfactory, although the attendance at the meetings has not always been as good as could be wished.

### Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

ABOUT ninety ladies and gentlemen attended an invitation meeting held at the Grand Hotel, Aytoun Street, on Wednesday evening, December 14, when the main feature was the exhibition of a collection of photographic objects. Mr. Chas. W. Gamble, of the Municipal School of Technology, also delivered a short lecture on "Trichromatic Photography." Among the exhibitors of slides were Messrs. Hermann Woolley, W. Lane, W. Kirkby, W. Wyatt, Percy Knott (Bolton), Humphreys, Burgess (Altrincham), Councillor H. Kemp, and Dr. Darbishire. Messrs. Flatters and Garnett also contributed to the exhibits, and a fine collection of stereoscopic views was shown by Miss E. M. Chapman. Some superior framed enlargements of actual work done by Mr. Hermann Woolley attracted a good deal of attention, as did also the prints shown by Mr. W. Kirkby, who had organised the exhibition.

### Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association.

THE quarterly meeting of the members was held on Wednesday, December 7, Mr. William Giles (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. A. L. Bruce (Vice-President), W. F. Hay, R. Leslie, D. Ritchie, J. R. Reith, J. Spence, C. Simpson, J. Paterson (Treasurer), W. Reid, W. Watson, and J. Black (Secretary). A letter was read from the Secretary of the Federation drawing the Association's attention to the Weights and Measures (Metric System) Bill, and it was remitted to the Executive to watch the progress of the Bill when it comes before the House. Attention was also drawn to the Fairchild scholarship and prizes, and it was remitted to the Education Committee to take steps to bring the matter before the members, in order that they may inform their apprentices regarding the conditions. Mr. D. Ritchie brought forward a motion to suspend the scholarships which the Association grant annually to the students attending the evening classes of the Aberdeen School of Pharmacy, but it received very little sympathy, only one member supporting Mr. Ritchie.

### Wolverhampton Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Star and Garter on Wednesday evening, December 7. There were present Messrs. Willcock (in the chair), Phillips, Hall, Fellows, Forster, Warner, Coleman, Goodwin, Bell, Gibson, Alcock, Stanway, and Coombe. The President proposed, and Mr. Gibson seconded, that the Association's votes for the



Benevolent Fund be given to Mrs. Miller, which was carried. The President called upon Mr. Alcock to read a paper,

#### MYRRH AND ITS OFFICIAL PREPARATIONS.

The author reviewed the history, habitat, botanical source, and chemistry of the myrrh-producing plants and drew attention to the papers by previous workers, especially those of Messrs. E. M. Holmes, R. H. Parker, H. G. Greenish, and G. F. Merson. The six official preparations were then reviewed and commented upon; special interest being taken in the preparation of a sample of tincture of myrrh which had yielded a low percentage of solids (4.75 per cent.) yet conformed to all other necessary requirements. This sample had been made, in strict accordance with official directions, from a sample of myrrh supplied by a first-class wholesale house in London. Reference was finally made to the nitric-acid test for genuine myrrh, and it was shown that a good way of applying this test is to dissolve the myrrh (or as much of it as possible) in fusel oil or pure amylic alcohol, and add an equal volume of nitric acid s.g. 1.2, then shake vigorously, when there gradually appears in the upper or amylic layer the persistent violet colour, so characteristic of myrrh.

#### Chemical Society.

A MEETING was held on Wednesday afternoon, December 14, Dr. W. A. Tilden presiding. The first paper read was on

##### THE HYDROLYSIS OF AMMONIUM SALTS.

In this Professor Veley showed that the current idea that the evolution of ammonia from hot aqueous solutions of ammonium salts is due to dissociation is inaccurate, and that a real hydrolysis occurs, ammonium hydroxide being an intermediate product. The measurement of the ammonia evolved in this way by boiling solutions of the salts affords a new method of measuring affinities of acids which gives results in conformity with those recorded by Ostwald in his pioneer researches on affinities. A good deal of discussion took place on this paper, and Professor Veley created much amusement by the adroitness with which he parried leading questions and avoided such entanglements as the inter-relationship of the various ammonium carbonates and the existence or non-existence of ammonium hydroxide.

In the next paper Mr. A. E. Dunstan gave further results of researches on the viscosities of binary mixtures, principally of propyl and allyl alcohols with water and other solvents; the curves obtained being similar to those previously described for other mixtures. Dr. Cain contributed a paper on

##### THE DIAZO-REACTION IN THE DIPHENYL SERIES.

When the para-tetrazonium chloride of diphenyl having an ethoxy-group in the ortho position to one of the diazo-groups is boiled with water the other diazo-group is replaced by hydroxyl, whereas the more usual reaction in the series is the formation of a quinone, both diazo-groups being replaced by oxygen atoms. In connection with this subject reference may be made to another paper on a closely related point read later on in the evening. Professor Meldola and Mr. Eynon have observed that many aminoazo-compounds form insoluble crystalline salts with chromic acid, and they recommend this as a general method of isolating these bodies from aqueous solutions. These chromates are extremely explosive, and it is possible that they may find technical application in this direction. Dr. Cain inquired whether it would not be possible to prepare certain diazo dyes (which cannot at present be put on the market owing to their instability) in this form, but Professor Meldola assured him that the chromates of these particular products are so explosive that he was quite willing to forego their further examination in Dr. Cain's favour.

##### THE SULPHATE AND PHOSPHATE OF THE DIMERCURAMMONIUM SERIES.

This was the title of a paper read by Dr. P. C. Ray. The author showed that when dimercurammonium nitrite,  $\text{NHg}''_2\text{NO}_2$ , which may be regarded as "infusible white precipitate" in which Cl is replaced by  $\text{NO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2$  by

$\text{Hg}''$ , is treated with "oxy acids," such as sulphuric or phosphoric acid, the group  $\text{NHg}''_2$  remains intact and  $\text{NO}_2$  is replaced by the acting acid radical. The author is now engaged in investigating a number of organic derivatives of the dimercurammonium radical, obtained by this general reaction.

At the close of the meeting the President drew the attention of the Fellows to the fact that the Wislizenus memorial lecture will be delivered on Wednesday, January 25, 1905, at 8.30 p.m., by Dr. W. H. Perkin, junr.

#### North Staffs Chemists' Association

A MEETING of this Association was held on December 8, at the Roebuck Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent. Mr. J. Averill, J.P., of Stafford (President), in the chair. There were also present Messrs. T. C. Cornwell (Vice-President), Weston Poole (Treasurer), Edmund Jones (Hon. Secretary), T. Pentley (Assistant Hon. Secretary), J. H. Bates and R. G. Emery (Stoke), J. B. Blades (Leek), W. Marson (Stafford), F. C. Burrell and T. Bottomley (Hanley), A. Fernley (Burslem), and C. Morrison (Newcastle).

##### ORGANISING SECRETARY.

The President, in opening a discussion on the question of appointing an organising secretary, said he hardly thought that the Divisional Secretaries as a body had done the good work that it was hoped they would do, and that was due to many causes. They could not expect a divisional secretary to give up his time and visit every member of the trade in his district. In view of this fact, he believed it would be a great advantage to the trade if an organising secretary were appointed. Some part of an organising secretary's duties would be the visiting of local associations throughout the country and explaining what was taking place at headquarters in London, and they would then be in possession of more facts concerning the work of the Society.

Mr. Marson (Stafford) thought it unreasonable to expect a divisional secretary to go outside his own town and canvass.

Mr. Blades (Leek) remarked that the P.A.T.A. had done the bulk of their work by means of an organising secretary. He felt that he (the speaker) really knew little of the inner working of the Society behind the scenes in London, and that was what he wished to know more about.

Mr. Emery (Divisional Secretary of Stoke) spoke in favour of an organising secretary, and favoured the reduction of the subscription to half a guinea.

Mr. Weston Poole made a thoughtful speech, pointing out some difficulties. If only one secretary were appointed and he had to visit each individual chemist, it would take five or six years to canvass 16,000 chemists.

Mr. T. C. Cornwell believed good would come from the appointment of an organising secretary. At the same time, he did not believe that the Society is in such a bad state numerically.

Mr. Bates thought the experiment worth trying.

Mr. Edmund Jones said the idea of an organising secretary first emanated from this Association, and was discussed some five years ago.

Eventually a resolution in favour of the appointment of an organising secretary was passed unanimously.

#### Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association.

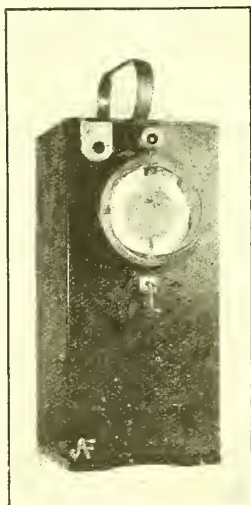
THE fourth meeting of the session was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Wednesday evening, December 7, Mr. Archibald Currie (President) in the chair. The meeting took the form of

##### A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

and social evening, and was well attended and in every respect successful. There was an interesting competitive exhibition of photographic work by members of the Association in which the prizes were awarded by Mr. John Banks as follows: First Prize, "Cramond Ferry," by A. McCutcheon; Second Prize, "Cranston Church," by Archibald Currie; Honourable Mention, "Cramond Ferry,"

by A. Currie; "Steamer at Aberdour," by J. Anderson; "Cluden Mill, Dumfries," by J. W. Plenderleith. The following sent photographs for exhibition: Messrs. J. Anderson, E. Brindle, T. R. Peattie, A. Currie, D. Napier, jun., Dunett, A. Govan Reid, W. L. Howie (London), A. McCutcheon, J. W. Plenderleith, C. Stewart (Kirkcaldy), Steven, and D. Storrar (Kirkcaldy). Messrs. A. H. Paired, Butcher & Sons (London), and Marion & Co. (London) sent various photographic articles. During the evening Mr. J. A. Forret gave a demonstration of the Todd-Forret Lamp and illustrated and explained his series of dark-room lamps for electric light. He also exhibited a small accumulator battery and lamp adapted for dark-room work which he had just devised and of which he said:

The battery consists of three cells of guttapercha fitted into a polished mahogany box, 7 inches high by 3 inches square, surmounted by a hinged metal lid with a handle. On one side of the box, under a hemispherical glass cover,



a small incandescent lamp is suspended in front of a white-enamelled concave reflector. The battery when I got it was of the dry-cell type, and was exhausted. I picked out the contents of the cells and fitted it as a Planté accumulator, with ordinary sheet lead  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch thick. Each cell conveniently holds two double sheets of lead 6 inches long by 2 inches broad—144 square inches in all. The guttapercha trough was then placed inside the box and the terminals connected with the shunt of the lamp. Of course the initial capacity was very small; but after repeated charging and discharging, with reversal of the charging current each time, a fair amount of "forming" was effected. The first time it was charged the lamp burned only for twenty seconds, now it burns brightly for half an hour. Where electric energy is available for lighting purposes such an accumulator may be charged practically for nothing. I charge it in circuit with a lamp,

and when the lamp is in use the cost of charging is represented by a slight diminution in the brilliancy of the lamp. For dark-room purposes the brass mounting of the glass cover is fitted with a cardboard cap "glazed" with one or two sheets of ruby paper. The shunt is under the cover, and the light can be turned on or off conveniently.

Our illustration is from a photograph of the lamp. An enjoyable programme of songs and recitations concluded the evening, and was contributed by Mrs. Rowland, Mrs. Smith, Misses Wood and Smith, and Messrs. Smith, Murray, Rowland, and Tait. Thanks were of course accorded to all who had contributed.

### Society of Arts.

An interesting lecture was given at the meeting of this Society on December 14, on the subject of

#### THE PATENT LAWS.

The lecture was by Mr. C. D. Abel, and in his absence was read by Mr. Bloxam. It had reference mainly to the procedure of the various countries in regard to the granting of patents, and also dealt with the change in system that is to be inaugurated at the British Patent Office on January 1, 1905. The new system consists shortly in this, that on an applicant lodging a complete specification at the Patent Office, a full and careful search shall be made by the examining staff among all patents taken out within the last fifty years, in order to ascertain whether the invention claimed is really new. If a prior patent should be found which, in the opinion of the Comptroller-General, more or less anticipates the invention, the applicant is to be apprised of this, and it is open to him either to amend his specification if he is convinced of the correctness of the assertion, or to argue against the Comptroller's opinion. If, after hearing his arguments, the Comptroller is still of opinion that the applicant is anticipated by the prior

patent, he has the power, subject to an appeal to the Law Officer, to cause a reference to be inserted in the specification to the prior patent or patents in question. After a consideration of what constitutes a perfect system of classification and the time required to examine a patent application, the lecturer expressed the opinion that to ensure a really effective examination of a patent a better system of classification must be adopted, and that the provision of staff made by the Comptroller-General is inadequate. Another point illustrating the different methods of various patent offices arises from the fact that where, for example, a single specification only is required at the British Office for a certain invention, several separate applications are needed at some foreign offices. The Welsbach patent 15,286 of 1885 is a case in point: this had to be split up into five applications to satisfy the United States Patent Office. Mr. Abel also said that the system of examination with power given to the examiners to refuse the grant of a patent on the ground of alleged want of novelty as carried out by the German and United States Patent Offices, and those of many other countries, is detrimental alike to the interests of the inventor and to those of the State; that even admitting the system to be correct in theory, it is not practically possible to carry it out in such a manner as to be perfectly equitable to the inventor while safeguarding the interests of the community; that to attempt to carry out the system with the very inadequate staff at the command of the Patent Offices of those States constitutes a great injustice to the inventors. It is an injustice to the inventor to oblige him to incur the expense of an appeal from the decision of a primary examiner; that when the views of the examiner differ from those of the inventor, it should be the duty of the former to lay the matter before the higher authorities, and only if these confirm his decision should the inventor be called upon to argue the case further. This is the system provided for by the new rules of the British Patent Office. The correct system of examination is that about to be adopted by the English Patent Office under the Act of 1902, always provided that an adequate examining staff be appointed and that the most perfect possible system of classification of the inventions be established for enabling the work of searching to be carried out in a perfectly efficient manner, so that the inventor shall not be put to unnecessary trouble in having to prove the novelty of his invention.

Another suggestion was that the Patent Office, instead of being, as it now is, a mere branch of a second-rate Government Department, should be elevated to the position of an independent Government Department, directly responsible to the Cabinet and Parliament.

The Chairman (Mr. Alexander Siemens) opened the discussion by asserting that all systems of examining patents have their faults. In his opinion it is the inventor who should make the search, he being assisted by the staff of the Patent Office. This speaker also pointed out that the original statute of monopoly was not designed to reward the inventor, but granted him "the sole working and making." It was the introduction of a new article that it was designed to reward, and legal decisions in patent cases were given on this basis.

Mr. Oscar Guttman was afraid the limited search to be made by the new system at the Patent Office would not be of much practical use, but he desired not to criticise it until he saw how the staff coped with the work. The examining staff being selected by competitive examination did not give the speaker much hope that the right sort of men were being obtained for the work. The inventor was not the person who should make the search, because as a rule he will not listen to reason; it is the public who should have the right to object to a grant of a patent.

Mr. W. F. Reid said those who had had experience of the United States Patent Office would know that the objections made by the examiner were often of the most trivial and stupid character. Sometimes it was even the title that had to be explained. Considering the limited search that the British Office is to make, he did not think the staff insufficient for the purpose. He did not agree with the Chairman's view as to the producer being protected rather than the inventor. The Parsons turbine patent was prolonged simply because it had not been produced commercially: this was surely to reward the inventor.



### Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland.

THE annual smoking-concert in connection with this Society was held at Belfast on December 7. There was a representative attendance. Among those present were Mr. S. Gibson, who presided; Mr. W. J. Rankin, Hon. Secretary; Messrs. Wm. Lyttle, J. D. Carse, J. Brown, S. Acheson, S. Suffern, F. Lindsay, D. A. Taylor, W. R. H. Orr, W. J. Gibson, J. B. A. Fletcher, J. Frackelton, J. Walsh, and H. Graham.

After tea numerous items of trade interest were discussed, among them being the following: "Should pharmaceutical chemists be admitted as members of the Society?" "The New Pharmacy Amendment Bill," "The Handling of Prescriptions by Druggists," "The Shop-hours Act," and "The Annual Concert."

The first of these was introduced by Mr. J. D. Carse. He stated that some of the pharmaceutical chemists in the city and neighbourhood had applied to be admitted as members of the Society, as they had no organisation of their own in the city. Some were already connected with the Society, but have never been elected members, and the question arose as to the status these chemists should have, as the rules of the Society do not provide for their admission as members. After discussion it was decided that Mr. Carse should give notice of motion to have the by-law altered at the annual meeting in February.

#### A PHARMACY BILL.

Mr. Carse also introduced the subject of "The New Pharmacy Amendment Bill." He stated that druggists had several grievances which it seemed could not be relieved except by an Amendment Bill: (1) Druggists cannot be admitted to the examination for pharmaceutical chemists except after a service of two years in addition to the four years already served as apprentices. This closes the door completely to those who are in business and who might desire to enter the higher grade. (2) The widows of druggists are not permitted to carry on their deceased husbands' business. (3) Druggists are not exempt from jury-service. (4) Druggists have not sufficient representation on the Pharmaceutical Council. Mr. Carse stated that it is unreasonable that any druggist of energy and ambition should be debarred from entering the higher grade if he so desired, and showed himself capable by passing the examination, and all druggists demand is the opportunity of showing that they are capable. Referring to the widows' clause, Mr. Carse said that it is unreasonable and unfair that, while the widow of a deceased pharmaceutical chemist can carry on his business in the interests of the family, the widow of a druggist is not allowed to do so.

Mr. Suffern said there would be no finality to these questions until the pharmacy law of Ireland is made similar to that of Great Britain, and all those in business have equal rights. He advocated the doing away with the grade of registered druggist by allowing all those now in business—as employers, assistants, or apprentices—to enter the higher grade by a modified examination.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. Rankin) stated that he had spoken to some of the leading pharmaceutical chemists about the matter, and they quite admitted that the demands are reasonable. He thought some good might come from a conference between the members of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society and the Pharmaceutical Council, and he suggested that a deputation should be appointed for the purpose. If, however, nothing came of it, the Chemists' and Druggists' Society should go for a Bill themselves, as there are ample funds for the purpose. On the motion of Mr. Lyttle, the matter was referred to the committee to formulate the proposals and to call a general meeting to put the matter in proper shape.

#### THE HANDLING OF PRESCRIPTIONS BY DRUGGISTS

was next dealt with. In introducing it, Mr. Acheson said the subject had been brought before them by a letter from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society to one of the members, drawing attention to the fact that an offence had been committed by getting a prescription compounded for a customer. He said that though druggists as a rule refused to interfere with the pharmaceutical chemists' trade and do not touch prescriptions, yet it is hard that a druggist should not be able to oblige a customer by getting

a prescription compounded for him by a properly qualified man. He (the speaker) held that the prescription-trade is not worth troubling about, and should be left severely alone. The druggist might recommend his customers to take the prescription to any chemist with whom he was on friendly terms.

#### THE SHOP-HOURS ACT

was referred to, and attention drawn to the fact that though shops could be kept open for the sale of medicine and the like, yet an order made by the Council regarding some other trade might interfere with the druggist; but as there seemed little likelihood of anything being done in the immediate future, the matter was left to the committee.

Mr. Frackelton reported that last year's annual concert had been such a success that the committee decided to proceed on the same lines this year, and to take the Ulster Hall for the function. Last year about four thousand had been present. Mr. Frackelton said that he is already arranging the preliminaries, and, with the assistance of the committee and members, hopes to make it a greater success than ever.

Several items of music were to have been given, but the discussion of the different subjects was so interesting that no time was left for this part of the programme.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded a very pleasant evening.

### Liverpool Chemists' Association.

A MEETING at the Royal Institution, Liverpool, was held on Thursday evening, December 8, the President, Mr. R. C. Cowley, being in the chair.

Mr. J. Shacklady (Secretary) announced that he had received a copy of a memoir on "*Feuilles de Psidium Goyava*" from Mr. A. Altan, of Buda-Pest (corresponding member).

#### MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS.

Mr. H. Wyatt, jun., showed Palethorpe's counter pill-coater, which was described in the *C. & D.*, May 23, 1905. It is also figured in the new edition of "The Art of Dispensing."

Dr. Symes said he had lately been crystallising bismuth, and exhibited some specimens which showed iridescence. He melted the purified metal and then allowed it to cool. The upper portion, cooling more rapidly, formed a sort of crust, and these crystals were larger than the others. He also showed some French crystals which were remarkable for wealth of iridescence. Mr. Cowley said a similar method is in use at Widnes in crystallising sodium carbonate. He thought the larger the quantity used, the better would be the crystals.

Mr. Lenton brought forward a sample of foreign flowers of camphor and lin. camph. made from it, which had a very dark look, and which he thought was due to moisture.

The President exhibited some glass tubes which he had for staining sections, which fitted into each other. Several members also described similar appliances.

The meeting then proceeded to the consideration of special communications, the first being read by the President, viz.:

#### ARSENIC.

*A Preliminary Contribution from the Liverpool School of Pharmacy on the Determination of Minute Quantities.*

By R. C. Cowley and J. P. Catford.

The authors pointed out that none of the tests for minute quantities of arsenic can be fairly described as "quantitative." Those, depending on the evolution of arsenium hydride, leave out of calculation the unknown and variable proportion of arsenium that may remain with the zinc, etc. In another communication they will deal with Dustan and Robinson's suggestions, and at present confine themselves to the test originated by Reinsch in 1842. This test depends upon the fact that in the presence of arsenic hydrochloric acid acts on copper, forming cuprous chloride and hydrogen; the latter reduces the arsenic to the hydride, which in turn reacts with the cuprous chloride, forming hydrochloric acid and copper arsenide, which is deposited on the metal. The authors discussed the points which bear upon the quantitative use of the test—viz.,

(1) volatilisation of arsenic as chloride during boiling, (2) charring of organic liquids, (3) detachment of the deposit from the copper, and (4) that a portion only of the arsenic can be sublimed from the copper. Experimentally they have proved that it is possible to definitely measure to the thirtieth of a milligram, or even to the five-thousandth of a grain, by proceeding on the following lines:

A few inches of fine copper wire coiled into a helix by twisting it around a glass tube is immersed in 10 c.c. of the liquid to be tested, to which one-fifth of its volume of hydrochloric acid has been added. The liquid and acid are contained in a test-tube which is supported upright in a salt-water bath by means of a loop of wire resting on the edges of the bath. The coil of copper wire is arranged so that it shall reach from the bottom of the arsenical liquid to above its surface. The test-tube must be immersed in the salt-water bath so that the liquid it contains shall be below the level of the liquid in the bath; the bath is to be kept simmering—without, however, reaching the boiling-point—for about an hour. The projecting extremity of the copper is now to be pressed down below the surface of the liquid, and if it remains bright after continuing the application of heat for another fifteen minutes, the arsenic will be all removed from the liquid, and the wire may be removed to a small dish, rinsed without touching it with the fingers, and the deposit then dissolved off by 1 c.c. of bromine-water containing a little hydrobromic acid. The clean wire is lifted out, rinsed with water, and if thought necessary may be returned to the acid liquid to make sure that all the arsenic has been deposited from it. The bromine solution now contains the arsenic as arsenious acid. To it 1 c.c. of potash solution is added, and the liquid is boiled until the light green copper compounds are broken up. During this treatment the cupric oxide formed as an intermediate compound oxidises the arsenic, and a solution of the alkaline arsenate results, which is filtered from the copper oxides. An aliquot part of the filtrate may be reserved and tested for arsenic acid by the molybdate reagent after evaporation; the remainder is reduced again to arsenic and titrated with centinormal or other suitably weak solution of iodine. A solution of iodine of convenient strength is made by diluting 10 c.c. of decinormal solution to about 150 c.c. and comparing it with a standard arsenical solution. The equivalence with N/150 iodine may be adjusted as follows:

Either 3 e.e. = 0.001 gram  
or 2 c.c. = 0.01 grain.  
Then 0.04 e.c. = 0.002 grain = or  $\frac{1}{5000}$  grain, or 0.00013 gram =  $\frac{1}{10000}$  milligram.

In measuring, the authors use a pipette graduated in 0.01 c.c., this fraction of the iodine solution giving the blue colour with starch in a volume of liquid not exceeding 10 c.c. The volume of liquid to be boiled with the copper need not be limited to 10 c.c., and experienced analysts will take the usual precaution of making a blank trial to ensure the necessary degree of purity of all the reagents. Fine-drawn wire is not likely to contain a considerable proportion of arsenic, and is more easily obtainable than electrolytic copper. The authors deprecated loading the B.P. with manipulation details.

Mr. P. H. Marsden thought the process a very good and simple one, which does not require extensive appliances and takes up the minimum of time.

Mr. Harold Wyatt then read two papers. The first was entitled

#### NOTES ON SYRUPUS IODO-TANNICUS.

Judging from the frequency with which this preparation is prescribed it is having fair medical investigation. The author recalled Power and Seddon's B.P.C. paper of 1901, and quoted the following formulae:

*Van Schoor's* is Iodine 2, Tannin 2, Alcohol (90 per cent.) 20, Water 20, Syrup to 1,000. Dissolve the iodine in the alcohol, add the tannin dissolved in the water, and heat with the syrup until all the iodine is converted and no longer colours starch paste.

*New French Codex.*—Iodine 2, Tannin 4, Water 60, Syrup of rhatany 100, Syrup to 1,000. Dissolve the iodine and tannin in the water on a water-bath, cool and filter, then mix with the syrup of rhatany, and when there is no iodine reaction evaporate to 120, making up to 1,000 with simple syrup.

*Extra Pharmacopœia.*—Iodine 2.5 grams, Tannin 4 grams, Alcohol (90 per cent.) 38 c.c., Syrup, etc., to 75 c.c. Dissolve the iodine in the alcohol, add the tannin and 30 c.c. of syrup, and heat until starch shows no trace of free iodine, then add the other ingredients. This contains the equivalent of 2 grains of iodine in each fluid drachm.

Van Schoor's form contains the least excess of tannin; the Codex syrup has too much tannin; and in Martindale's the use of alcohol is unnecessary, and the author might have been more explicit with regard to "flavourings and carminatives." The author finds coffee the best flavouring to hide the taste of the hydriodic acid and mask that of the tannin, and the following form, based on that of the "Extra Pharmacopœia," gives a satisfactory result:

Iodine	...	...	320 grains.
Tannin	...	...	320 grains.
Sugar	...	...	12 oz.
Tincture of vanilla (1-40)	...	...	80 minims.
Freshly roasted coffee	...	...	2 oz.
Water to	...	...	20 fl. oz.

Make a strong infusion of the coffee by percolation with boiling water until 4 oz. of liquid has passed. Set this aside and continue the percolation until 4 oz. more is obtained. Rub the iodine fine, and put it and the tannin in a flask with percolate No. 2 and 1 oz. of the sugar, and heat until the iodine is absorbed. Finally dissolve the rest of the sugar in this and percolate No. 1, adjust to 1 pint, and add the tincture of vanilla last.

This makes a thin, dark syrup of pleasant odour and taste. The proportion of sugar may be increased if a denser and sweeter syrup be desired. It was noted that Continental syrups are almost invariably weaker than those used in English and American pharmacy, which are too frequently over-medicated. Mr. Wyatt also read a series of

#### PHARMACY NOTES.

In beginning this paper the author pointed to the advantage of dispensing as a means of maintaining the chemist's knowledge of chemistry and pharmacy, and suggested that those who have only a few prescriptions a week cannot do better than make a hobby of this work, and by concentrating their experience and scientific knowledge upon it turn it out in such a way as to bring credit to themselves as master craftsmen and influence favourably the reputation of the body of which they are members. He then detailed the following examples of dispensing difficulties. The numbers on the right show the order of mixing:

#### Order of Mixing.

Copaibæ	...	...	3iv.	3
Liq. potassæ	...	...	5ij.	6
Succi hyoscyam.	...	...	3iv.	4
Mucil. tragac.	...	...	3j.	1
Syr. aurant.	...	...	3vj.	5
Aq. chlorof. ad	...	...	3vj.	2

Make the mucilage in the bottle, add half the chloroform-water, and shake with the copaiba until emulsified; then add the other ingredients, make up, and finally add the liq. potassæ. This gives a fine, even, white emulsion. If the liq. potassæ be added to the copaiba, the emulsion is not so good and is yellower in colour. The mixture exemplifies the fallacy of using two emulsifiers at the same time.

#### Bark Mixtures.

Acid. nit. mur. dil.	...	...	5iss.	2
Spt. chlorof.	...	...	5iss.	1
Ext. cinchon. liq.	...	...	5iss.	3
Aquam ad	...	...	3vj.	4
Mix the acid, spt. chlorof., and extract together, and pour into the water. Any other way gives a flaky deposit.				
Tr. cinchonæ	...	...	5ij.	1
Acid. sulph. dil.	...	...	5ij.	2
Aq. chloroform. ad	...	...	3iv.	5

Mix the bark with the acid and pour into the water. If the order be reversed, and the tincture added to the acid and water, a precipitate of a much darker colour and much more bulky comes down.

*Insoluble Powders in Mixtures.*—With bismuth, subnit. the mucilage is better mixed in the bottle with half the menstruum, and the bismuth levigated with the rest of the

#### Ferri et Quinina Citras in Mixtures.

Ferri et quin. cit.	...	...	3j.	3
Liq. strych.	...	...	3j.	2
Ac. phosph. dil.	...	...	5iss.	1
Syr. zingib.	...	...	5ij.	4
Spt. chlorof.	...	...	5ij.	5
Aq. menth. pip. ad	...	...	3vj.	6
Dilute the acid with half the aq. menth. pip., and add the other ingredients dissolved and mixed with the remainder of the menstruum. When the acid is added to the ferri et quin. cit. only slightly diluted, a white precipitate of ferric phosphate comes down.				
Ferri et quin. cit.	...	...	3j.	
Syr. aurant.	...	...	3j.	
Spt. chlorof.	...	...	3ij.	
Dec. aloes co. ad	...	...	3vj.	

The fine precipitate is well suspended by the myrrh and aloes soaps in the decoction.

Ext. cocæ liq.	...	...	3ij.	
Fer. et quin. cit.	...	...	5ij.	
Tr. gent. co.	...	...	5iss.	
Tr. nucis vom.	...	...	5v.	
Aque	...	...	3ss.	
Instead of the tincture of nux an equivalent of liquid extract was employed to avoid the alcohol precipitating the citrate.				
Spt. ammon. arom.	...	...	5ij.	
Ferri et quin. cit.	...	...	5ss.	
Aq. menth. pip. ad	...	...	3vj.	

With the consent of the doctor a fluid ounce of infusion of senega was used in this to suspend the precipitate, the patient objecting to a thick gummy or sweet mixture.



menstruum, a small amount at a time, and poured into the mucilage. Bismuth carbonate does not really require mucilage to suspend it if it be kept freshly precipitated under water in the proportion of 60 grains to the fluid ounce. Calculate the amount of bismuth sulphide in the required amount of bismuth carbonate, then take an equivalent in bismuth subnitrate, dissolve it with heat in excess of nitric acid diluted with twice its volume of water, and pour into plenty of warm solution of sodium carbonate, afterwards well washing the precipitated bismuth carbonate by decantation. It keeps well, and by varying the temperature at which it is precipitated and washed it may be obtained in almost any desired state of density. With subnitrate the method does not answer, as it continually yields up its nitric radical, so that finally it becomes little better than bismuth oxide. Bismuth salicylate is best compounded by rubbing fine in a mortar, moistening with the tinctures so as to drive out the air its particles contain, mixing with the water, and then pouring into the bottle on to the mucilage.

Magnesium carb. and magnesia make much smoother mixtures if rubbed through a muslin strainer in a thin cream. This applies to nearly all insoluble powders, for the foreign bodies, sieve-hairs, etc., removed from them when they are strained is rather surprising. Boric acid, though not exactly an insoluble body, gives some trouble when in fairly large amounts owing to its tendency to float on the liquid. This can always be prevented by damping it with the tinctures before adding the water:

Acid. boric. ... .. 3ij.	Acid. bor'c. ... .. 3ij.
Tr. hyoscyam. ... .. 3vj.	Potass. citrat. ... .. 3iv.
Liq. morphinæ ... .. 3iij.	Tr. hyoscyami ... .. 3vj.
Aquam ad ... .. 3vj.	Liq. morphinæ ... .. 3ij.
Proceed as above, and the mixture is easily turned out.	Aquam ad ... .. 3vj.
	The pot. cit. and acid. boric. react to produce potassium borate and free citric acid, so the mixture is clear.

*Salts* in excess of solubility give frequent trouble, the greatest sinner in this respect being potassium chlorate. This would not be so if prescribers had the advantages of sodium chlorate pointed out to them. Its solubility is such that it should commend itself on that score alone, not to mention that its percentage of the chlorate radical is considerably higher than in the potassium salt. The following mixtures show its advantages where used instead of the potassium chlorate:

Vin. ipecac. ... .. 3j.	Ammon. carb. ... .. 3j.
Pot. chlorat. ... .. 3j.	Pot. chlor. ... .. 3iij.
Tr. quin. ammon. ... 3ij.	Tr. camph. co. ... .. 3iv.
Syr. aurantii ad ... 3iv.	Vin. ipecac. ... .. 3ij.
	Syr. tolu. ... .. 3vj.
	Aq. chlorof. ad ... .. 3vj.

Misce.

Sodium chlorate gives fine, clear mixtures.

*Uses of Hypophosphorous Acid in Dispensing.*—There are many cases where a few drops of hypophosphorous acid will work wonders in the prevention of iodine-liberation in certain mixtures. Where quinine and an acid and potassium iodide are prescribed together, we all know what peculiar changes take place, an example of which is the following:

Quininæ sulphatis ... ..	gr. xxxvj.
Acid. hydrobrom. dil. ... ..	3iv.
Potass. iodid. ... ..	3j.
Tr. aurant. ... ..	3vj.
Spt. chlorof. ... ..	3iij.
Aquam ad ... ..	3vj.

By adding to this twenty-four drops of acid. hypophosph. B.P.C., coloration is prevented entirely.

Where syr. ferri iodidi has become coloured, as it does particularly in winter, when the actinic power of daylight is not sufficiently active to reduce the ferric oxyiodide gradually formed by the action of the air, warming gently and dropping in sufficient hypophosphorous acid soon brings it back to its sea-green colour.

Dr. Symes, speaking about Continental syrups, thought the English syrups being denser prevents fermentation, a weak solution of sugar fermenting much quicker than a stronger one. In France the method of storing syrup is interesting, it being kept in 8-oz. bottles in a cool place, and a bottle taken for use when wanted.

THE BOARD OF TRADE have received a circular dated November 8 stating that the Russian Customs Department have ordered the destruction of all articles or parts thereof sent to Russia by post which are declared or found to contain celluloid. It is absolutely forbidden to send celluloid articles by post to Russia under any form of cover.

## Births.

HOOPER.—At Calcutta, on November 8, the wife of David Hooper, Indian Museum, of a son.

SMITH.—At 16 Albemarle Mansions, Holloway Road, London, N., on December 12, the wife of Harry Smith, chemist and druggist (formerly of Edinburgh), of a son.

## Marriages.

KNIGHT—WINFIELD.—At St. Mary's Church, Amersham, on December 12, by the Rev. C. M. Briggs, Rector, assisted by the Rev. C. L. M. Fenn, Rector of Little Missenden, William Arthur Knight, pharmaceutical chemist, of the Westminster College of Pharmacy, to Lucy Emma (Cissie), eldest daughter of Mr. Thomas Winfield, Tresco House, Amersham.

YOUNG—PARK.—At the Bath Hotel, Glasgow, on December 7, by the Rev. A. C. Welch, B.D., Claremont Street U.F. Church, Robert Young, pharmaceutical chemist, Helensburgh, to Bessie Muir, daughter of Mr. John Park, Sandyford, Glasgow.

## Deaths.

BARLOW.—At 41 West Street, Congleton, on December 12, Mr. Henry Barlow, chemist and druggist.

BOOTH.—At Crewe, on December 14, Mr. Edwin Booth, chemist and druggist, of Chester Bridge, aged sixty-three. Mr. Booth was the oldest chemist in Crewe, having been in business for upwards of thirty-three years. Some eighteen months ago he was taken seriously ill with Bright's disease and left the town for a change of air. He returned a few months since, apparently cured, but on Wednesday morning he relapsed and died. Recently he built a beautiful residence in the outskirts of the town, and he only left the shop in Chester Bridge, to take up his residence there, a week or two ago. He leaves a widow and large family.

HELM.—On December 9, at Ellerslie, Altrincham, Elijah Helm, M.A., Secretary of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, aged sixty-seven. Mr. Helm was a well-known lecturer and writer on trade topics, in addition to which he had an intimate official knowledge of the practice of Government departments at home and abroad in dealing with commercial affairs. He was a *persona grata* with more than one of the high permanent officials with whom his work brought him into contact, and his qualifications enabled him to put the Manchester Chamber of Commerce on an influential footing with the Foreign Office, the Board of Trade, and other departments of State.

THOMAS.—At Machynlleth, Montgomeryshire, on December 1, Mr. John Thomas, chemist and druggist, aged fifty-nine.

WILLMER.—At Limehouse, E., on December 2, Mr. Charles Willmer, chemist and druggist, aged eighty-one.

WRIGHT.—At Rochford, near Southend-on-Sea, on December 7, after a long illness, Mr. William Robinson Wright, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-two.

THE BILLIG PHARMACY in Cherson Street, Odessa, has been sold for 48,000r. (4,800l.), the Abramoff pharmacy in Rischeleff Street for 33,000r. (3,300l.), and the Averbuch pharmacy in Otchakoff has changed hands for 17,000r. (1,700l.).

MR. J. T. SANDELL has opened a pharmacy at 62 Hindmans Road, Barry Road, East Dulwich, S.E., and in his opening circular says:—

I have been persuaded to do this, because the immediate neighbourhood has been badly served in this respect for some years now; in fact, no qualified individual has been available to the public, and the service, I understand, has been of an unsatisfactory nature.

We have received a strong protest against this, there being several qualified men in the neighbourhood.

## Personalities.

MR. E. J. BEVAN, F.I.C., F.C.S., is to be the next President of the Society of Public Analysts.

MR. SEYMOUR was another absentee from Messrs. Allen & Hanbury's representative party photographed in the *C. & D.* a fortnight ago.

ALDERMAN H. POTTER (Potter & Clarke) on Tuesday presided at the "Tuesday Pleasant Evenings" held at the Grange Park Congregational Church, Leyton.

MR. H. P. THOMPSON, of Messrs. H. P. Thompson & Co., 93 Aldersgate Street, E.C., sailed by the s.s. *Baltic* on Wednesday for New York, on important business.

At the Royal Albert Institute, Windsor, last week, Mr. G. Claridge Druce, M.A., gave a lecture on "A Botanical Excursion in Turkey and Greece," illustrated with lantern-slides.

MR. J. G. FERRIER, Ph.C., L.P.S.I., Arbroath, N.B., has been appointed manager of the business of Messrs. A. Laing & Co., chemists and mineral-water manufacturers, Port of Spain and San Fernando, Trinidad.

MR. E. H. JUDGE, chemist and druggist, North Street, Bourne, has been elected President of the Tradesmen's Association, of which Mr. T. M. Baxter, chemist and druggist, of Messrs. Baxter & Mills, is Vice-President.

MR. T. H. W. IDRIS, J.P., L.C.C., is one of the patrons, along with the Duke of Devonshire and other public men, of an exhibition of cheap cottages which is to be held in the Garden City Estate from July to September next.

MR. R. DRANE, chemist and druggist, has presented two commemorative jugs ("Peace after the Napoleonic Wars" and "The Coronation of William IV.") and a modelled mug to the Cardiff Museum, and has been thanked by the Corporation.

MR. WALTER H. LENTON, pharmaceutical chemist, formerly Burroughs and Butt scholar, who has had charge of Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders & Kemp's laboratories in Liverpool, has been engaged by Messrs. Stafford Allen & Sons as their chemist at Long Melford.

THE Lavoisier Gold Medal has been awarded by the French Academy of Sciences to Professor Sir James Dewar, F.R.S., for his researches on the liquefaction of gases. This is the first occasion on which the medal has been awarded to a British man of science, the former distinguished recipients outside France being Fischer (Berlin), Cannizzaro (Rome), and Graebe (Geneva).

MR. RICHARD WINFREY, pharmaceutical chemist, read a paper at the United Service Institution, Whitehall, on December 12, on "What can be done to Assist in Solving the Problem of Settling Cultivators on the Land." Mr. Winfrey, who is a Past-President of the Chemists' Assistants' Association of London, has gone in for politics, and is now Liberal candidate for one of the Parliamentary divisions of Norfolk.

## Trade Notes.

MESSRS. LUDFORD & Co., glass-bottle makers, Homerton, N.E., are now on the telephone (1487 North), and their telegraphic address is "Ludfordia London."

A SACHET, odoriferous and pretty, seems a good thing for chemists to give away at Christmas time. Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders & Kemp, Ltd., Liverpool, have a good and cheap line (24s. a gross) which they figure in their advertisement this week. They print the chemist's name on each.

A NEW CIGAR PRICE-LIST has been published this week by Messrs. Ingram & Royle, Ltd., 25 Upper Thames Street, London, E.C., and Bristol and Liverpool. The firm are importers of cigars (Louis Tinchant's and others) and Chemists' Egyptian cigarettes, all of which they offer at tempting prices.

CYLLIN has had a good advertisement this past week, Mr. Charratt Lodwidge, M.R.C.S. having described to the

Metropolitan Branch of the British Medical Association a case of pulmonary tuberculosis which has shown great improvement under cyllin spray (1 in 50 to 500 of diluted glycerin). The newspapers have freely referred to the paper.

COXIN COMPETITION.—The result of the competition organised by Messrs. W. Butcher & Sons, Camera House, Farringdon Avenue, E.C., for users of Coxin developer has just been announced. A list of sixty-eight prize-winners is given. The dealers who supplied Coxin to the five chief prize-winners and in this way themselves qualify for prizes are given as Mason, Bradford; Hadfield, Milnsbridge; Boots, Brighton; Boots, Hammersmith; J. Fallofield, London.

VERMIN-KILLERS.—Messrs. Frank Farmer & Co., 17 Poole Road, South Hackney, London, N.E., are the manufacturers of a "baited" phosphor paste in which the odour of free phosphorus is much subdued without diminishing the toxic power of the element, and there is also combined with the paste a nutritive material which rats and mice like. The paste keeps in excellent condition for a long time, and is attractively put up in sealed glass jars which retail at from 3d. to 5s. The firm also make a powder vermin-killer, and are the makers of "Pulicide," an insect-powder of proved potency. They pack insect-powder for retailers, and offer good inducements as to price in respect to all these lines, which may be obtained through any wholesale house in Great Britain or Ireland.

CHAMELEON ADVERTISING.—At the Gas Exhibition now being held at Earl's Court, one of the most attractive exhibits is that of the Chameleon Signs, Ltd. One of the prominent attractions at this stall is a large representation of the carton used by the Tasmanian Eucalyptus Oil Co., Ltd., for their oil. It is in the form of a cabinet (3½ feet high by 1½ foot broad), and at night the changing chameleon colours flitting over the face of the cabinet hold the attention of the most careless. The effect is obtained by a revolving lamp in the interior of the cabinet, the revolutions being caused by the heat of the spent gas. The lamp has bands of colours irregularly placed round it; any transparent colour-tint may be utilised, and some of the effects obtained are very fine. The Tasmanian Co. intend using their unique device in window-shows, and when the cabinet has been exhibited in a chemist's window for some time, the chemist may purchase it and adapt it to his own uses, as all that is required to change the text of the advertisement is a new tablet of frontglass, which will cost but little. At the same exhibit Chameleon cabinets are shown advertising Virol, Mother Seigel's Syrup, Burgoyne's burgundy, Horniman's tea, and many other well-known specialities. The price of each cabinet (which is an attractive sign by day, and may be illuminated by gas, electricity, or oil) is 5l. 5s. for an ordinary size.

## Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Saturday, December 17.

Inter-Pharmacy Football League Matches: Square v. Metropolitan College, at Wormholt Farm; London v. Westminster College.

Wednesday, December 21.

Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 p.m. Mr. J. W. Gordon will read a paper on "The Theory of Highly Magnified Images."

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, North British Branch, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 8.30 p.m. Mr. Wm. Mair on "A Pharmacist's Impressions of the United States" (lantern lecture).

Western Chemists' Association, Norfolk House, London Street, W., at 9 p.m. Mr. J. C. Umney on "The Wholesaler's Responsibility."

THE Junior Pharmacy Ball is to be held on March 1. Mr. Percival Trick, Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C., is the Hon. Secretary.

A CHRISTMAS COURSE of six lectures adapted to a juvenile auditory, on "Ancient and Modern Methods of Measuring Time," will be given by Mr. Henry Cunyngname at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., beginning on December 27.





**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

#### Pharmacopœia Revision.

SIR,—It has been stated that the 1898 British Pharmacopœia is a wholesalers' Pharmacopœia, a book in which the hand of the manufacturer is too evident. Does the list of experts published in your columns this week hold out any hope of a change in the coming issue? Is the retail or dispensing chemist sufficiently represented? Axe-grinding can be raised to a fine art, and in a book published "by authority" all suspicion of such should be avoided.

December 10.

STANDARDISER. (73/90.)

#### To South Devon Chemists.

In our issue of November 19, page 840, we printed a note in regard to a Mr. R. Palmer, M.A., from correspondents in Barnstaple. The complaint was that this person buys chlorodyne, and leaves the place without paying. Mr. Frank Rowe, of Starcross, now writes about the same man, he having sold him chlorodyne which was not paid for, and others in Starcross have trusted Palmer without receiving payment. He is now in some other town in South Devon, and chemists should note that he is tall, has a long grey beard, and is dressed in clerical garb.

#### That Slip Label.

One of the principal firms in the country (75/7) write as follows: "It is extraordinary how many chemists write to us from different parts of the Kingdom on postcards bearing a halfpenny stamp, and paste one of their own printed slips on, thereby breaking the rules of the Post Office, and compelling recipient to pay a surcharge of 1d., being endorsed 'Liable to letter rate' or 'Contrary to regulations.' No doubt our experience is the same as others, but the error becomes costly to those who receive much correspondence."

[We suffer also. The Post Office permits the affixing to a postcard of a label bearing the name and address of the person to whom the card is to be delivered. This appears to confuse people, but such an intelligent class of men as chemists should not go astray on this point.—EDITOR.]

#### Metric Proposals.

SIR.—As Mr. Henry Foster mentions the "Extra Pharmacopœia" in his interesting letter in your issue of December 3, I may, perhaps, be pardoned if I say a word in reply. I am sorry I cannot agree with Mr. Foster as to the desirability of dividing the cubic centimetre into 16 parts so as to approximate the minim. I do not think the division into 16 parts would be appreciated by dispensers, especially by those with a desire to simplify the existing system with a view to more rapid calculation—my contention is let us have a purely decimal system or remain where we are. I have prepared mil pipettes with 101 graduation marks, as suggested at the Pharmaceutical Council on November 2. It may be of interest to recall that at the International Congress for the Unification of Pharmacopœial Formule of Potent Drugs and Preparations held at Brussels in 1902 it was decided that the drop measure should have an outside diameter of 3 mm., and give (at the temperature of 15° C.) 20 drops of distilled water weighing 1 gram. Regarding the advisability of asking the medical profession to introduce a dash through their minim and drachm signs, my answer would be "the less said, the better."

Yours faithfully,

W. HARRISON MARTINDALE.

10 New Cavendish Street, W., December 8.

#### Metallic Ferments for Pneumonia.

SIR.—The facts which Dr. Robin brings forward, as reported by your Paris correspondent last week, are not by any means "new"—indeed, they are just about a century old. The discovery that metals, when administered to the human subject in doses so minute as to be altogether in-

appreciable, exercise an influence that is almost magic was made by Hahnemann, who also discovered the method of reducing metals to a state of infinitesimal fineness by a process of graduated trituration with sugar of milk. By using these preparations he was able to demonstrate on the healthy and on the sick just what their curative powers are. In his "Materia Medica Pura," which appeared early in the nineteenth century, he says in his article on gold:

Physicians by their failure to resort to the test of experiment and by their futile theorising have denied the possession of any medicinal power whatever to many substances that are very powerful. . . . Modern physicians have pronounced gold to be quite inactive. . . . They are all wrong; gold has great, peculiar medicinal powers.

8 Bolton Street, W.

JOHN H. CLARKE, M.D.

#### Pharmacy in Orangia and the Transvaal.

Vindex (29/70) writing from one of the recently annexed republics in regard to what our correspondents have said about pharmacy therein, with which he disagrees to a greater extent than our space permits, says:

The drug-trade will remain for years to come mostly in the hands of the storekeepers, for the simple reason that the Boer is not generally a cash customer. He depends on his crops or stock, and consequently has to deal with the big shopkeeper, who can run his account, if necessary, one, two, three, or more years—i.e., until (if bad seasons follow) the shopkeeper has the Boer's farm and stock in his possession. The shopkeeper, in his turn, is in the hands of the coast merchant; the latter, again, may be supported from London, Glasgow, Manchester, or New York. Consequently the storekeeper gets all the drugs the Boer requires from his coast supporter, who buys all that is required from the coast wholesale druggists at a very liberal discount. The coast people can afford to wait, for the simple reason that a mortgage or bill of sale on the Boer's farm, through the medium of the up-country storekeeper, will eventually land them as semi-millionaires. Against these combined forces, what chance has an ordinary pettifogging country druggist? I have looked up the small list of chemists and druggists in the O.R.C., and cannot identify anyone who has got on it by a liberal supply of cham., Rynbends, or "seegars made in Holland." I know personally all the members of the late O.F.S. Pharmacy Board. They were all Germans, or of German extraction, and might therefore be suspected of a love of gin and "seegars." But they were all wealthy men, doing very large practice, having their own pharmacies, keeping open shop, retailing briskly. How much would they take for the alleged Bloemfontein trick? Another thing: In all the smaller towns up country there are one, two, or three doctors—Scotch, Irish, English, German, Dutch, Jewish, etc. These men all kept an open apothecary on their own, selling just what was in demand. Both the O.F.S. and Z.A.R. had Pharmacy Acts in force for a number of years. There was a regular examination—fractions, Latin, botany, dispensing—much about the same as in England. . . . Pharmacy is "catholic" or nothing at all. Why should a man put on airs because, as a lad, he washed out the glass mortars of a shop in the purlieus of the West-end of London? When the British took over the Z.A.R. in 1877 the Legislative Council passed an Ordinance dealing with the admission of chemists and druggists. Yet you and your correspondents would have us believe that up to quite recently there was no such law, that the whole Transvaal was overrun by ignorant persons who did not know Epsom salts from oxalic acid; also that Sir R. Solomon (he must be a Solomon) and the Pharmacy Board of the O.R.C. are gravely considering a measure or measures for the examination of future candidates for pharmacy. It may be true, but, if so, it speaks very little for their knowledge of their adopted country.

Our correspondent is willing to pay 1*l.* to the Pharmaceutical Benevolent Fund if anybody can prove the Bloemfontein trick, which in the days of the Republic was said to consist in going from the Transvaal to the O. F. S. to be examined for a pharmacy licence, champagne and cigars (provided by the candidate) being a prominent part of the examination outfit. It is wicked for people to say such things, but some will have their joke.

#### Correspondence in Brief.

THE VINOLIA CO., LTD., are making their usual annual Christmas offer to the medical profession of 5*s.*, 10*s.*, 20*s.*, and 2*l.* parcels of soaps and toilet-preparations at half retail price (2*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.*), carriage paid. Correspondents call our attention to the fact that a similar offer "to the clergy" is made in the "Church Times," where, however, the 2*l.* parcel is not offered. Our correspondents complain that advertisements of this character in a newspaper such as the

"Church Times" are practically an appeal to the public, and that they will adversely affect the retail sale of Vinolia preparations. We daresay the company will see the cogency of the argument. "Half-price" offers have a knack of persisting to the detriment of all concerned except the fortunate purchasers.

[Since the forgoing was set up we have been informed that it is the intention of the Vinolia Co. to obtain from each clergyman who applies for the parcels the name of the chemist with whom he usually does business, and the company will pay the chemist a 20 per cent. bonus.]

### Legal Queries.

**Labels to be marked "Liable" or "Not liable" to medicine stamp-duty** should be sent to the Editor in duplicate and with a stamped and addressed envelope for return of the marked ones, if desired.

73/42. *Pharmacist*.—You do not say where the cast was sent to, but if to London and if you can prove that it was delivered on Thursday, the Friday's post-mark will be evidence that the terms "per return" were not adhered to. We should think the manufacturer will meet you in the matter.

73/50. *Riled* writes: "From ignorance on my part my name has been expunged from the register of chemists and druggists in one of the annual purgings. What fee can the Registrar legally enforce for restoration; and is the fee one of his perquisites, or does it go to the funds of the Pharmaceutical Society?" [The fee now charged is a guinea, which is, like all other money paid to the Registrar in respect of Pharmacy Act work, paid to the Treasurer of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain for the purposes of that Society. We cannot trace any legal authority for the payment of this fee. By Section 7 of the 1868 Act the Society is empowered to charge fees for "examination and registration as aforesaid." Section 10 provides that a name may be restored to the register of chemists and druggists "by direction of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society should they think fit to make an order to that effect." There is nothing in the Act about a fee for this, and nothing in the by-laws, which deal solely with the fees authorised by Section 7. It will be observed, therefore, that the fee legally payable, if any, must be the subject of an order by the Council in each case. Section 9 gives the Council power to make regulations for keeping the register correct, and under these regulations (we are officially informed) the restoration-fee is charged. The resolution passed by the Council in each case runs somewhat in the following strain: "So-and-So, having paid a fee of one guinea, is," etc.]

76/40. *Querist*.—(1) There is nothing to prevent you making a preparation the same as your predecessor's and selling it, so long as you do not do so in colourable imitation of his. If you call it "Querist's So-and-So" it will be liable to medicine stamp-duty; although it is not recommended for the cure of any ailment, it is thus made a proprietary medicine. If you do not use the possessive case, it will not be liable, and you may, with a full disclosure, recommend it for ailments and sell it unstamped. (2) "Querist's anti-rough paste for chaps and roughness of the skin" is not liable to stamp-duty, as it is a toilet-preparation.

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

61/28. *A. H. J.*—See reply to another correspondent on the same subject.

56/74. *D. O.*—**Frosted Windows**.—There is really nothing to prevent frost appearing on plate glass except glycerin, but this remedy is worse than the complaint. Of course you are aware that a shop-window is simply a condensing surface for the evaporation of moisture in the shop, and although you may prevent the deposit of moisture on the window during the day by keeping a row of gas-jets alight at the bottom, it is difficult to maintain this condition during the night with safety. Hence as soon as the shop is shut the moisture is deposited on the window and the outdoor temperature determines the freezing.

60/43. *B. S.*—Add a grain of powdered liquorice to the 2 grains of valerianates, and mass with glycerin of tragacanth.

208/27. *M. P. S.*—If we were to publish your letter, you might find it figuring in an advertisement by your opponents with an explanation to show that they had only 2d. profit on it, and you had 2s. 2d. Of course, dispensing prescriptions is not trading, and dispensers would regard the cutter much as the two-guinea Harley Street man regards the East-end sixpenny doctor, if the cutter could be kept as far away.

7/23. *O. R.*—There are some books published on the pernicious effects of tobacco. We reviewed a book on snuff-taking many years ago, but cannot recall the name of the publisher. Perhaps some anti-tobacco reader may name a few books other than James the First's famous "Counterblast."

66/28. *Islington*.—For particulars of bosom-developing preparations see *C. & D.*, September 17, page 515.

66/36. *J. L. G.*—Heroine is better than morphine in cough-mixtures, having a more direct action upon the bronchi.

56/32. *B. S. & Co.*—**Pasting Labels on Tin**.—Roughen the surface of the tin with sandpaper and use a warm solution of gelatin 1 oz. in acetic acid 4 oz. as the adhesive. Another formula, which we published in 1896, was stated by a subscriber to be excellent:

Mucilage of tragacanth	...	...	5s.
Honey	...	...	3s.
Wheaten flour	...	...	3j.

Mix.

First damp the labels, then apply the mucilage, and set to dry, but not in the sun or a hot place.

45/59. *J. V. K.*—Mayne's "Medical Vocabulary," 12s. 6d. (Churchill), gives definitions of all of the medical terms met with in ordinary practice.

240/36. *Lindum*.—**White Ticket-ink**:

Bismuth oxychloride	...	...	5ij.
Zinc oxide	...	...	5vj.
Mucilage of tragacanth	...	...	5ij. or q.s.

50/68. *A. G. H.*—We have no further information about the process for preparing ammonium sulphate from peat, to which reference was made in the *C. & D.*, November 19, page 818.

44/28. *E. R.*—(1) **Removal of Hair by Electrolysis**.—The process answers, but according to some authorities the hair grows again. For a summary of the process refer to the *C. & D.*, July 15, 1899, page 97, and December 28, 1901, page 1048. (2) Inquire at Maw's for the apparatus.

46/4. *Dental*.—**Books on Practical Dentistry**.—Gerham's "Tooth-extraction," 1s. 6d. (Lewis); Barrett's "Dental Surgery for Medical Practitioners and Students of Medicine," 3s. 6d. (Lewis).

46/3. *A. M.*—**Tooth-powder**. Refer to *C. & D.*, July 23, page 136.

47/32. *H. S.*—The "snow" or "frozen-foam" variety of Skin-cream is generally a casein-product. A suggested formula was given in the *C. & D.*, January 2, page 27; here is another that has since come in:

Casein	...	...	2 oz.
Water	...	...	7 oz.
Liquid ammonia	...	...	½ oz.
Glycerin	...	...	1 oz.
Perfume	...	...	q.s.
White vaseline	...	...	3 oz.

Mix together the casein, water, and glycerin, stir in the ammonia, warm to dissipate the ammonia, and when cold mix with the vaseline.

69/48. *L. S. W.*—Refer to the official syllabus of the Minor examination, to be obtained from the Registrar, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.

### Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

72/18. London agents for Kaufmann's sulphur bitters, an American preparation.

73/19. Present address of the Arema Manufacturing Co.



## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, Lon lon, E.C., December 15.

THE usual end-of-the-year slackness is evident this week, trading for the most part being for current requirements. The principal and only change of note in fine chemicals is an advance in cocaine, due to the high price ruling for crude. Camphor continues firm, and the German refiners have advanced their prices to-day. Camphor monobrom and camphoric acid are among the preparations that have also been advanced. Quinine is entirely neglected, attention being concentrated on the Amsterdam cinchona-auction held to-day. Guaiacol carbonate and creosote carbonate have been greatly reduced in price. Among drugs, saffron has advanced in Spain; spermaceti, caraway-seed, cumin-seed, and Sumatra benzoin are firmer. Senega is offered at lower rates, and shellac is also lower. The annual auction of castorum was held this week, and, with decreased supplies, prices advanced considerably. In essential oils peppermint is quiet, and perhaps a shade easier in some quarters. Spearmint oil is dearer, and the price of oil of cloves is still being cut. The following are the principal changes of the week:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Acid aceto-salicylic	Acid carbolic (crystals)	Acid, carbolic (crude)	Creosote carb.
Acid, camphoric	Caraway seed	Acid tartaric	Guaiacol carb.
Camphor (Germ.)	Cumin-seed	Ammonia sulphate	Oil, clove
Camphor monobrom.	Saffron	Gran. parad. Nutmegs (W.I.)	Senega
Castorum		Mace	Shellac
Cocaine		Oil, cotton-seed	
Gamboge			
Oil, rape			
Oil, spearmint			
Spermaceti			

### Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, December 14:—The opium-market is steady, and a few purchases have been made on United States account.

HAMBURG, December 15:—Refined camphor has been advanced to 700m. per 100 kilos. Carnauba wax is firmly held, and Japanese wax is dull of sale at 102m. per 100 kilos.

NEW YORK, December 15:—Quiet business conditions prevail. Refined camphor is unaltered but strong at 75c. per lb. Peppermint oil is weak, but quotably unaltered at \$5.50 per lb. for tin oil, and citronella oil is easier at 30c. per lb. The following articles all show a firmer tendency: Cascara sagrada at 7c., menthol at \$2.60 per lb., golden seal (hydrastis) at \$1.45, and senega at 68c. per lb.

AMSTERDAM, December 15:—At the last cinchona-auction of the year, held to-day, 11,069 bales and 538 cases were offered, weighing 1,008,444 kilos, and containing 47,210 kilos. sulphate of quinine (against 45,611 kilos. q.s. offered at the auction on November 10). Of the above quantity, 10,115 packages were sold at an average unit of 6.30c. per half-kilo., against 6.45c. per half-kilo. paid at the auction on November 10. The following were the approximate quantities of quinine purchased by the principal buyers: English and American factories bought the equivalent of 11,986 kilos., the Brunswick factory 7,679 kilos., the Mannheim and Amsterdam factories 7,283 kilos., the Frank-

fort and Stuttgart factories 7,510 kilos., and various buyers 7,814 kilos. The prices paid for the manufacturing bark ranged from 9c. to 72½c. per half-kilo., and for druggists' bark from 6½c. to 51c. per half-kilo.

ACID, ACETIC.—Prices of all grades are very firm, and the outlook is still for higher prices in 1905. Although this is considered to be the "off" season, the demand has been unusually brisk, and for 99 to 100 per cent. from 37l. 10s. to 38l. 10s. per ton is quoted.

ACID, ACETO-SALICYLIC.—This coal-tar product, which is coming into more general demand, has advanced in price, the makers now quoting 15s. per lb. Bayer's "Aspirin" is 18s.

ACID, CAMPHORIC, has been advanced 1s. 6d., to 15s. 6d. per lb. net.

ACID, CARBOLIC.—Crude is ½d. lower, 60-per-cent. offering at 2s. 4½d. per gal.; 75-per-cent. is 2s. 8d. to 2s. 9d., and 50-per-cent. 1s. 10½d. to 1s. 11d. Crystals, 39° to 40° C., are firmer at 6¾d. and 34° to 35° C. are unchanged at 6½d. per lb.

ACID, CITRIC, is unaltered at 1s. 0¼d. for English and 1s. for foreign.

ACID, TARTARIC, is rather easier at 11½d. per lb. for foreign and 11¼d. for English.

ALBUMEN.—Good pale egg is quoted 1s. 11d. per lb., being firmer.

ALOES.—The s.s. *Walmer Castle* has brought 49 packages from the Cape, and there has recently been an arrival of 45 boxes direct from Curaçao.

ANISEED.—Russian is slow of sale, but steady, at 20s. to 21s. per cwt.

ANTIMONY continues firm at 17l. per ton for Japanese crude on the spot, and for regulus 3½d. is quoted, English offering at from 37l. to 38l. per ton.

ARECA.—Sales of good bold have been made at 15s. per cwt.

ARGOL.—At auction 12 bags Cape were bought in at from 47s. 6d. to 55s. per cwt.

BALSAM, CANADA, is quoted 2s. per lb. spot in cases, and 1s. 10d., c.i.f., in casks.

BENZOIN.—There is a much firmer tone about the market for Sumatra benzoin, and a more favourable opportunity is now presented to second-hand holders for the realisation of their stocks. Good seconds are exceedingly scarce, and are worth between 7l. and 8l. Palembang can be had at 55s. per cwt., and a retail sale of good small and medium free Siam almonds, slightly blocky, ex last week's auction, has been made at 14l. 10s. per cwt. Some 13 cases of Siam have arrived this week.

BLACK HAW BARK of root has advanced to 10d. per lb., c.i.f., being 2d. dearer.

CAMPHOR.—Refined remains firm, and, as will have been noted from our cablegram last week, American was advanced to 75c., equal to 3s. 1½d. on the other side, at which price it still remains. On the spot Japanese tablets have been sold at 2s. 9d. per lb., but it would be difficult to find further sellers at this price, 2s. 10d. being the general quotation. To-day the German refiners have advanced their price for bells to the equivalent of 3s. 3d. per lb. English refiners quote 3s. 4d.

CAMPHOR MONOBROM. is dearer at from 5s. 2d. to 5s. 8d. per lb. net, according to quantity.

CANARY-SEED is very quiet. Turkish is worth 71s. to 72s., and Mazagan 77s. per quarter, but only retail sales are taking place.

CARAWAY-SEED.—Dutch is now quoted at 22s. per cwt., and tends to be dearer.

CASTORUM.—A fair amount of interest was shown in the annual auction held in London on Wednesday, the quantity offered by the Hudson's Bay Company being 1,067 lbs., against 1,510 lbs. offered at the auctions last year. There was a brisk demand from all the usual quarters, and, competition being keen, prices showed a sustained advance from beginning to end—say, from 25 to 45 per cent. on last year's sale-rates. Firsts were 11s. to 12s. per lb. dearer, seconds 15s. to 25s., thirds 14s. to 20s., and picking 14s. to 16s. per lb. higher. The follow-

ing were the prices paid: *Hudson's Bay Co.'s sale*—Y F, good dry firsts, 78s.; firsts and seconds, mouldy, 73s.; seconds, 68s.; dry mouldy thirds, 54s.; thirds, part damp and mouldy, 48s. to 51s.; pickings, 39s. to 40s. *Canada*—firsts, 76s.; firsts and seconds, mouldy, 74s.; seconds, 69s.; thirds, wet mouldy, 59s.; dry mouldy, 57s.; mouldy, 54s. to 56s.; pickings, 42s. N W, good dry firsts, 79s.; firsts and seconds, mouldy, 74s.; seconds, 70s. to 73s.; thirds, part mouldy, 54s. to 57s.; lean pickings, 45s. to 46s.; cuttings, 21s. Y F, etc., cuttings 12s. to 16s. per lb. The favourite M R mark was again absent this year. At Messrs. S. Figgis & Co.'s sale 21 packages, weighing about 300 lbs., were offered, and all sold, comprising firsts at from 63s. to 66s., seconds 45s. to 50s., thirds 40s. to 45s., mixed 40s. to 52s., and pickings 30s. per lb.

CHAMOMILES continue firm, and for No. 1 Belgian flowers 85s. is asked by one holder, who also asks 65s. for old crop.

CHLOROFORM.—A Berlin report states that makers of German chloroform have further increased their prices, and that the outlook is for still higher prices in 1905. This is somewhat a contrast to the British market, where keen competition has reduced prices. It is difficult to see how such unremunerative rates can continue, seeing that the present price of acetone is from 75/ to 80/ per ton.

CINCHONA.—The shipments from Amsterdam during the first half of December amounted to 800,000 Amst. lbs., against 591,000 Amst. lbs. at the same time last year.

COCAINE.—On Monday the makers announced an advance of 1s. 1d. per oz. in the price of hydrochloride, and now quote 14s. 3d. per oz. for not less than 70 oz., 14s. for at least 70 oz., and 13s. 9d. for 175-oz. lots. Cocaine pure B.P. is 2s. 3d. per oz. more than the above prices. The advance is chiefly on account of the high price at which *crude* has stood for some time.

CORIANDER is firm, the market having been almost cleared by export orders. Morocco is offered at 32s. 6d. to 35s., Russian at 28s., and Bombay at 19s. per cwt.

CREAM OF TARTAR is steady at 80s. per cwt. for 95-per-cent. and 82s. to 85s. per cwt. for 98-per-cent. powder.

CREOSOTE DERIVATIVES.—Owing to the expiry of the patents for creosote carbonate (creosotal) and guaiacol carbonate (duotal), these preparations have been considerably reduced in price. Duotal in 1-oz. envelopes is now quoted 20s. per lb., and creosotal in 1, 4, 8, and 16 oz. bottles 9s. per lb., net cash. Their equivalents, guaiacol carbonate and creosote carbonate, are also quoted at 20s. and 9s. per lb. respectively. In reference to the two latter articles it may be mentioned that the export prices were formerly fixed by the makers at about one-third below those for home consumption. The consequence was that the customers' declarations given for "export" increased considerably, while the home trade fell off!

CUMIN-SEED.—A fair business has been done at from 18s. to 18s. 6d. per cwt. for Mogador, but higher prices are now asked.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—An arrival of 7 cases lump has taken place. Otherwise good bright lump is very scarce, and for the four or five cases in second-hands 15/ per cwt. is asked.

ELEM.—Good sales have lately been made at 35s. per cwt. for fair white.

FENUGREEK is firm, being in small supply. Morocco is quoted 9s. per cwt.

GALLS.—Sales of ordinary Shanghai quality have been made at 52s. per cwt., c.i.f.

GAMBOGE.—An arrival of 18 cases has taken place, but it is said to be "in transit." Retail sales of rather blocky Siam pipe have lately been made at 19/ per cwt., but much higher figures are now asked, one holder of a case of good pipe asking 28/.

GLYCERIN.—A report from the Continent indicates a brisk consumptive demand, and an increase in price is looked for in many quarters, as the price of crude glycerin is very firm.

GRAINS OF PARADISE.—The present spot price is 40s., being easier.

GUAIACUM.—Good glassy block is quoted 1s. per lb.

HONEY.—There is a scarcity of good cheap grades of Jamaica and prices in second-hands are firmer. Retail sales of Californian have been made at 42s. 6d. for good amber liquid, and 45s. for pale, which prices could be shaded for quantity; for shipment 37s. 6d., c.i.f., is quoted.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—Private advices from Trieste intimate that the article is now cheap, and that with an improvement in the demand a recovery in prices may take place. Good closed Dalmatian flowers are quoted 80s. and upwards, half-closed 70s. to 75s., and "open" flowers 50s. to 60s. per cwt., c.i.f.

IPECACUANHA.—We notice the arrival of 25 bags "roots" from Singapore which on investigation proves to be Johore or East Indian ipecac., weighing about 2,500 lbs. The arrivals also include 7 of Minas and a small lot of Matto Grosso. The article is slow of sale at the moment.

KINO.—There is no demand at the moment, but with the export tax now in operation there is likely to be no abatement in prices. Good Cochin grain is quoted 1s. per lb.

LINSEED.—Sicilian is quoted 11s. per cwt., c.i.f.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—Cut decorticated South European root is quoted at from 32s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt., c.i.f.

OIL, ANISEED, STAR, is quiet at from 5s. 2d. to 5s. 3d. per lb. spot.

OIL, CAMPHOR, sells slowly at 47s. 6d. per cwt.

OIL, CASSIA, is quiet at 3s. 3d. per lb. spot for 80 to 85 per cent. c.a., and 3s. for 70 to 75 per cent.

OIL, CASTOR.—Medicinal quality of Hull make is quoted 25/ 5s. per ton, firsts at 22/ 15s., and seconds 20/ 15s. in barrels, *ex wharf*, London.

OIL, CLOVE.—Keen competition characterises the market, another English distiller having now reduced his price to 3s. 9d. per lb. for B.P. oil.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on December 10 that the market is firm and stocks are extremely small, finest non-congealing oil being quoted firm at 165s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The beginning of the winter fishing in the northern places is sensibly hindered by total want of bait. As to the cod itself, the quality of the fish and liver appear good, but the size is again rather small. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 7,173 barrels, against 2,297 barrels at the same date of last year. On the London market agents report a flat tone, the nominal price being 170s. per barrel, but offers at less would be submitted. New oil for shipment in January is quoted 165s.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS, meets with a steady sale, at 1s. 3d. per lb. for B.P. oil in small lots.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—In reference to the rumours which have been current on this market for some time past that a tax has been levied by the Japanese Government on the exports of peppermint oil and menthol from Japan, we are informed by the Japanese Consul-General in London that the rumour referred to is "wholly devoid of any foundation," and that all exports from that country are *free*. The market for all grades of peppermint has been very quiet this week, and the tendency is, if anything, weaker—prices, in the absence of business, being more or less nominal. For American H.G.H. 16s. 10½d. is suggested as the price at which business is likely to result, and for Japanese dementholised 6s. has been paid.

OIL, SPEARMINT, has advanced to 20s. per lb., c.i.f., in tins in cases.

OIL, SPIKE.—Pure is almost non-existent on this market, and the price is easily maintained at 5s. per lb.

OILS, FIXED.—*Linseed* is steady at 14s. 9d. spot in pipes and 15s. 6d. in barrels. Spanish *Olive* has advanced to 33/ per tun on the spot, while Levant and Mogador are unaltered at 32/ *Cocunut* is unaltered at 30s. 6d. per cwt. spot for Ceylon and 34s. for Cochin. *Rape* is dearer at 22s. for English refined and 21s. for ordinary brown on the spot. *Palm* is unaltered, and on the week *Cottonseed* has further declined to 15s. 6d. to 17s. 6d. for refined and 14s. 3d. for crude. *Turpentine* closes at 36s. 9d. for American on the spot, and no alteration has occurred in *Petroleum* oils, the price of water-white American being 7d. per gal.



**QUININE.**—A few small sales of German sulphate in bulk have been made from second-hands at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per oz., the tone, however, continuing extremely quiet. The attention of the trade is concentrated on the heavy cinchona-auction held at Amsterdam to-day, the result of which will be found in our "Cablegram" section.

The exports of "quinine, quinine preparations, etc.," from Germany during the nine months ended September were as follows:

	1902.	1903.	1904.
Kilos. ... ..	155,700	127,200	124,500

**SAFFRON.**—Prices in Spain record an advance of 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d., principally owing to the rise in exchange and a firmer feeling there. Finest B. P. quality of new Valencia is almost wanting on this market, but cheaper grade (also B. P.) is quoted from first-hands at 22s. 0d. per lb., net. Prices in Spain have apparently touched bottom, and it would not now be surprising to see a gradual upward movement.

The exports of saffron from Spain during the nine months ended September were as follows:

	1902.	1903.	1904.
Kilos. ... ..	50,048	41,430	45,205

**SASSAFRAS-BARK.**—Importers now quote 7d. and 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., c.i.f., which is  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1d. per lb. dearer than our last quotation.

**SENEGA** continues slow of sale. One holder, who is anxious to sell, is offering in quantity on the spot at 2s. 10d. per lb. net, with the result that the article is depressed, and buyers are holding off. Cables have been received from New York indicating a weaker feeling there, and orders are solicited at 2s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., c.i.f. The consumption of senega so far this season appears to have been unusually small, and the inference is that wholesalers are working with low stocks, having bought from hand to mouth only. With the turn of the year it is expected that the demand will improve. At the last moment our New York cablegram indicates a firmer feeling.

**SHELLAC.**—At auction on Tuesday the large supply of 2,308 cases was offered, of which about 450 cases only were sold, without reserve. Prices of second Orange were 5s. to 10s. lower and blocky about 5s. lower, and Button thirds sold at easier rates. Garnet was all withdrawn. Good second Orange sold at from 212s. to 215s., ditto matted 207s. to 203s., ditto blocky 200s. to 202s., fair second Orange slightly matted 209s. to 211s., matted ditto 208s. to 197s., blocky 200s. to 191s., hard block 178s. to 183s., ordinary reddish second matted 190s. to 192s., and blocky ditto 189s. to 190s. per cwt. Of *Button*, 560 cases offered, of which 100, without reserve, sold at from 133s. to 143s. for fair to good second weak and blocky, 119s. to 125s. for fair thirds weak and blocky, and one lot 130s.; 445 cases A C Garnet and GAL, catalogued without reserve, were all withdrawn, as were also 186 cases of slightly water-damaged *Button*. Privately, prices in delivery-market have been more or less nominal in the absence of business.

**SPERMACETI** is much firmer, 1s. per lb. having been paid and since refused for American refined on the spot.

**SPICES.**—At the last sales of the year, held on Wednesday, Singapore *Pepper* was bought in at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for barely fair and Lampung at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. Privately spot sales have been made at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., being firm, and for arrival there are sellers of January-March shipment at 6d. *White pepper* sold in auction at from 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., fine was bought in at 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., and fair Siam was taken out at 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. *Ginger* was dull of sale, a large supply of Cochin and Calicut being offered, a small portion of which sold at easy prices, including ordinary small wormy Cochin at 15s. Small to bold lined Calicut was bought in at 25s. West Indian *Nutmegs* were again easier, as was also *Mace*, fair reddish West Indian of the latter selling at from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d., and pickings at 10d. to 11d. per lb. Fair bright Zanzibar *Chillies* were bought in at 45s. and selected *Cassia lignea* at 45s. A large quantity of damaged *Cinnamon* chips sold without reserve, and for Zanzibar *Cloves* at auction lower prices were paid; 70 bales out of 140 bales offered, selling at 5d. for fair and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for ordinary dark. Good unpicked Penang were bought in at 11d. per lb. Previous to the auctions business had been done in Zanzibar description on the spot at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and for delivery fair quantities

have changed hands at fluctuating but lower prices, the business including October-December 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., January-March 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., March-May 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.

**TONKA BEANS.**—Sales of fair frosted Para have been made at 1s. 3d. per lb.

**TURMERIC.**—The remainder of the parcel offered in auction last week (35 bags) has since been sold at 13s. 6d. for fair bright mixed finger and bulbs. At auction 246 bags Madras were bought in, including good dullish finger at 18s. and bright coloury finger, slightly wormy, at 15s. per cwt.

**VALERIAN.**—According to advices from the Continent, the crop in Thuringia has proved better than was at first expected, and this fact has not enabled producers to obtain such high prices as they anticipated. The article is, however, higher in price than it was last year, being quoted at 65m. per 100 kilos.

### Heavy Chemicals.

There is a moderate business passing in the heavy-chemical market, although it is somewhat quieter than it has lately been, and is likely to continue so for a period now. For the time of the year, however, it is probably above the average, and the all-round tone continues firm. There is a very satisfactory demand for deliveries against existing contracts, and orders also continue to be placed covering next year's requirements.

**ALKALI-PRODUCE.**—The principal activity in this branch is as regards caustic soda, ammonia alkali, and salteake. Bleaching-powder and soda crystals continue to move fairly well, but can scarcely be described as brisk. Chlorates and prussiates are steady.

**SULPHATE OF AMMONIA**, in spite of the fact that deliveries are not over heavy, is still fairly firm in tone, and quotations are again a shade higher. It hardly seems quite certain, however, that they will be fully maintained. Beckton, December-January, 13l. 5s.; Beckton terms, 13l.; London, 13l. 5s. to 13l. 7s. 6d.; Leith, 13l. to 13l. 2s. 6d.; Hull, 12l. 18s. 9d. to 13l.

**BENZOLS** rule steady at recent higher figures, and are in fair request: 90 per cent. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per gal. and 50 per cent. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per gal. Aniline oil and salts maintain a steadier position at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5d. and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. respectively.

**BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA** are in fair request, with values unchanged. Bichromate of potash, English and Scotch deliveries, 3d. per lb. less 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Glasgow, and export figure 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow. Bichromate of soda, English and Scotch deliveries, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. less 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Glasgow, and export 2d. per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow.

### Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, December 14.

**CAMPHOR.**—German makers write that camphor is very scarce and steadily advancing; 3s. per lb., c.i.f., is the lowest price mentioned.

**CANARY-SEED.**—There is very little inquiry. Turkish is offered at 77s. 6d. per qr. in store, and Mazagan at 77s. 6d., c.i.f.

**CANTHARIDES** offer from Hamburg at 5s. per lb., c.i.f.

**CAENAUCA WAX.**—The recent arrival sold at auction at advanced rates, 117s. 6d. per cwt. being realised for grey. Yellow has since sold at from 133s. to 135s. per cwt.

**CASTOR OIL.**—Good seconds Calcutta has sold at advanced rates, 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. being now the lowest on the spot. For shipment 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. is wanted for January to April. In consequence of the advance in seed, the price of first-pressure French has advanced to 22l. per ton, f.o.b. Marseilles, and in sympathy with this the limited stocks offering are held for 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

**GUINEA GRAINS.**—Holders now ask 40s. per cwt.

**HONEY (CALIF.).**—Stocks in first-hands have been practically cleared at 30s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt., according to quality.

**IRISH MOSS.**—Recent arrivals of common have been sold on private terms. The limited quantity offering is held for 15s. 6d. to 18s. per cwt., according to quality.

**TURPENTINE.**—Although the price advanced to 39s. 6d., it is now very weak at 37s. 6d. per cwt.

### German Drug-market.

Hamburg, December 13.

Business is still quiet, and is already of a holiday-character.

**AGAR-AGAR** is quiet at 270m. per 100 kilos. Offers of the new crop are calculated at about 230m. per 100 kilos.

**ALOES.**—Cape is tending lower at 70m. per 100 kilos.

**ANTIMONY** is quiet at 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. per 100 kilos.

**CAMPHOR.**—Refined is very strong and extremely scarce; 700m. per 100 kilos, has been paid.

**CANTHARIDES** is firm and scarce on the spot, Russian being held at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. per kilo.

COCAINE has been raised 40m. per kilo. by the factories to 470m. per kilo.

CONDURANGO is flat at from 61m. to 60m. per 100 kilos.

CEMIN-SEED is firm at 45m. per 100 kilos. for Maltese.

ERGOT is firm but quiet at 325m. per 100 kilos.

FENUGREEK is lower at 16m. to 15m. per 100 kilos. for Mogador.

IPPECACUANHA is neglected; Rio is quoted 10½m. to 11m. and Cartagena 10½m. per kilo.

GOLDEN-SEAL is inactive at 13½m. per kilo.

LYCOPODIUM is unchanged at 750m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is dull of sale on the spot at 18m., and 16m. per kilo. for forward.

OILS (FIXED).—Castor is improving; first pressing in barrels is quoted 44m. per 100 kilos. Cod-liver is firm at 175m. per 100 kilos. Cotton is rapidly declining, and Chinese wood is quoted 49½m. per 100 kilos. on the spot.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Peppermint is quiet; Japanese on the spot is quoted 12½m. per kilo. and HGH 16½m. per lb. Star-aniseed is steady at 12½m. per kilo.

QUILLAI-BARK is firmer at 36m. to 37m. per 100 kilos.

SENEGA is easier at 670m. per 100 kilos.

SFERMACETI is dearer at 205m. per 100 kilos.

WORMSEED is tending higher at 125m. per 100 kilos.

WAX (JAPANESE) is quiet at 104m. per 100 kilos.

### American Drug-market.

New York, November 29.

Business generally is quiet, the post-election boom not yet having put in an appearance. The feeling in business circles is confident, but prospective tariff-tinkering is causing a little uneasiness in some quarters.

ALOE is moving only in a small way, and prices show no change. Cape is firm at 11c. and Curacao at 5½c.

BALSAMS.—Copaiba is jobbing steadily at 30c. for prime Central American. Canada fir is firmly held at \$3.50, and Oregon at 90c. Tolu is dull at 21c., and Peru fairly steady at \$1.10.

BEEWAX.—Curtailement of production has caused a firmer feeling, and pure yellow is quoted 29c. to 32c., according to quality.

BARKS.—All American varieties are more or less scarce and firm. Very little has been gathered, and less will be in the near future unless business conditions change. Cascara is easing off, and holders are willing to make concessions. Quotations are nominally unchanged, but deliveries have been made from the Pacific Coast at 6c., f.o.b. New York. Sassafras is very scarce, and 15c. has been paid for prime bark. Of wild cherry only poor grades are offering, and 6½c. is an inside figure for good bark.

CAMPHOR has again advanced, and 70c. is now asked for goods in bulk. (Since advanced to 75c.)

CANTHARIDES.—Recent arrivals have broken the corner in Russian, and supplies can now be obtained at \$1.25.

CANNABIS INDICA is firm, and stocks are very small. Spot quotations are firm at \$1.05 for prime tops.

COD-LIVER OIL is in good demand, and the market has a firmer tone. Prime brands of Norwegian are selling at \$48 to \$50.

ERGOT is slow of sale, at 38c. for Russian and 40c. for Spanish.

KINO has advanced in sympathy with the London market, and is now quoted at 25c. per lb.

LYCOPODIUM is scarce, and prices are moving upward. Demand is good, and 82c. is now asked for ordinary and 85c. for Pollitz. A substitute of German origin is being offered under the name of "Lycopodin," but has not found much sale. It appears to be a manufactured article.

MENTHOL is weak and irregular; \$2.55 will buy spot goods. Demand is poor, and offerings are not large, as most holders paid higher prices for their stocks.

PEPPERMINT OIL is quiet and unchanged, with Western holders still firm. On the spot there is an indication of weakening in some quarters, and bulk oil has been offered at \$3.50. The general quotation is \$3.60.

OPIMUM is quiet but steady at \$2.72½ in case lots.

QUININE is quiet, and not much business is passing. Second hands offer Java at 22c. and German at 22½c.

SAESAPARILLA.—Mexican is easier owing to arrivals, and 8½c. would buy in quantity.

### Spirit in Poland.

It is interesting to note from a German consular report on the trade of Warsaw that on March 1, 1904, there were 348 distilleries at work, or seven less than at the same period of 1903. The quantity of spirit distilled during the year 1903-4 amounted to 4,894,313 vedro, being 95,726 vedro less than in the corresponding period of the previous year (one vedro=2.7 Imp. gals.). As the potato-crop became exhausted, the distillers had to use grain and maize; the latter they procured from Podolia and Bessarabia.

### Mexican Produce Concession.

Señor Rafael Peon has secured a ten years' concession granting him the privilege of cutting mahogany, cedar, dye-woods, and lumber, and of gathering chicle, gums, resin, and rubber. The lands upon which he is authorised to operate are nearly 700,000 acres of Government lands in the territory of Quintana Roo. Mr. Peon may be addressed at Merida, Yucatan.

### Ceylon Cardamoms.

At the opening of the Session of the Ceylon Legislative Council on November 16, the Governor (Sir Henry Blake), in his Address, stated that on the representations of the Planters' Association he had consented to introduce an Ordinance to impose a cess of 1c. per lb. on all exported cardamoms for a period of two years, the proceeds to be used for the purpose of finding new markets for this product. The proposers of this measure, who have the support of over 75 per cent. of the acreage at present under cardamom-cultivation, have pointed out that the prices obtained for this product have gradually sunk so low that most of the estates are barely able to work at a profit. If the Legislative Council approves of the proposed Ordinance, the cardamom-cess fund will be administered by a committee of the Planters' Association in the same way that the tea cess is administered.

### College Notes.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY.—On December 9 the students of this college, with their Principal, Mr. Frederick Davis, visited the South Metropolitan Gasworks. The process of gas-making in every detail was seen, from the filling of retorts with coal, the passage of the impure gas into the ascension pipes, the deposit of tar in the condensers, the removal of ammonia by the scrubbers, and the absorption of gaseous impurities, such as carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulphide, and bisulphide of carbon, by the lime and ferric-oxide boxes respectively, to the final testing of the finished product by the photometer.

WEST OF SCOTLAND COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—The annual dance of the past and present students, with their friends, of the West of Scotland College of Pharmacy was held on December 8, in the Prince of Wales Halls, Glasgow. About ninety ladies and gentlemen were present, and dancing went on with snap and vim until 1.45 A.M. It was the most successful and enjoyable of the numerous College reunions. Towards the close Mr. J. P. Gilmour proposed "The College," which was responded to by the Principal. Mr. Baine attributed the success of the evening to the energetic committee who had organised the gathering. He then went on to speak of the merits of the "Fairchild Scholarships" as designed to promote true education. A vote of thanks to the committee was proposed by Mr. J. A. McKenzie, M.A., to which Mr. D. McNicol, jun., replied.

INTER-PHARMACY FOOTBALL LEAGUE MATCHES.—A match between Metropolitan College F.C. and London College F.C. was played at Shepherd's Bush on December 10. London opened the scoring, a fitting reward for a faultless piece of passing. A second soon followed, and was replied to by the "Metros" scoring from a neat centre from the left wing. After the change over the "Metros" did not succeed in giving the London goal-keeper any employment whatever, and the Londoners, having the game mainly in their hands, added three more goals to their list, winning by five goals to one.—The match between teams representing the Square and the South London College of Pharmacy was played at Old Oak Farm on December 10. Owing to delay caused by a misunderstanding as to the ground chosen, the match was not finished; darkness making further play difficult. The unfinished game was in favour of the Square—nine goals to nil; the South London team playing three men short.

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY AND PHARMACY.—The last botanical excursion of the season took place to Kew on December 8. After spending a pleasant time in the gardens, the students adjourned to the Rose and Crown Hotel, where a substantial tea was provided by the Principal. After tea the College Football Club held a smoking-concert. During the interval, Mr. Armitage, on behalf of the students, presented Mr. Wills with a Gladstone bag as a recognition of the high esteem in which they held their Principal. Mr. Wills, in thanking the students, congratulated the Club on the success they had achieved. Referring to pharmaceutical examinations, he said he had long wished for the abolition of the October Examination, and the holding of the January Examination in December, because the rejected candidates of July are as a rule no better prepared for that (the October) Examination, which always commenced at the end of September, and this year in the middle of the month. If the Board of Examiners could see their way to make this change, it would afford the students an opportunity of spending their Christmas at home, and enable the various Principals to close their colleges and schools for a short vacation during the festive season.



## The Kaleidoscope.

THE following statistics are compiled from information supplied by public warehouses. They relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses for the month of November, 1904, and to the stocks on November 30.

	November		Stocks		1904	
	Landed	Delivd.	1904	1903	Imprtd.	Delivd.
Aloes.....cs, etc.	111	175	716	769	1,575	1,763
".....gourds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aniseed, star.....cs.	—	—	—	17	25	25
Arrowroot.....pkgs	1,386	1,991	11,822	14,162	16,445	18,325
Balsams ... cks, etc.	83	12	610	773	293	473
Cambura.....bgs	—	49	234	637	64	363
Camphor.....pkgs	200	937	1,413	1,326	7,216	6,722
Cardanoms cs, etc.	444	617	2,612	2,473	6,396	5,903
Cinchona.....pkgs	898	1,483	6,519	6,392	10,647	9,586
Cocculus indicus bgs	—	—	93	125	—	29
Cochineal.....bgs	23	97	185	390	324	623
Cubebs.....pkgs	—	6	733	1,157	200	445
Dragon's-blood.....cs	6	7	38	119	49	127
Galls.....pkgs	369	82	1,601	5,264	1,240	4,661
Gums—						
Ammoniacum ..	—	1	5	13	14	22
Anini ..	38	47	447	246	1,210	987
Arabic .....	1,530	1,323	6,671	9,741	11,213	15,852
Asafetida.....	—	92	344	154	1,039	839
Benzoin .....	139	228	1,145	1,243	1,936	1,868
Copal.....pkgs	3,113	5,364	19,533	33,300	48,374	60,666
Damar .....	612	513	1,777	2,291	3,890	4,449
Galbanum ...	—	—	3	3	—	—
Gamboge.....	11	11	8	49	187	197
Guaiacum ...	—	2	62	41	79	55
Kauri ... tons, net	121	177	1,008	1,016	2,187	2,271
Kino.....pkgs	—	2	88	136	6	29
Mastich .....	—	—	18	9	35	30
Myrrh, E.I. ....	1	40	36	80	215	270
Olibanum ...	1	333	2,297	964	5,117	2,746
Sandarac .....	159	191	1,018	1,069	943	1,057
Tragacanth.....	398	907	2,584	4,074	9,312	10,969
Ipecacuanha—						
Matto Grosso ..	20	21	308	396	396	514
Minas .....	—	3	45	122	2	121
Cartagena ...	11	11	35	179	89	230
E. I. ....	35	8	39	14	98	73
Jalap.....bls	—	6	244	116	164	46
Nux vomica.....pkgs	54	98	68	23	1,284	1,239
Oils—						
†Aniseed, star cs	—	—	—	17	25	25
†Cassia....."	—	—	85	252	196	242
Castor.....pkgs	143	131	296	775	1,702	2,159
Cocoa-nut .... tons	72	73	77	372	697	843
Palm .....	3	2	9	—	47	42
Quinine.....lbs	3,125	1,489	210,108	190,812	31,375	25,424
Rhubarb.....chts	32	104	272	263	647	653
Sarsaparilla.....bls	62	96	168	222	855	966
Senna.....pkgs	595	904	3,037	2,392	6,250	5,631
Shellac.....cs	10,662	4,468	37,071	12,994	68,481	47,512
Sticklac.....	20	51	391	120	1,130	900
Turmeric.....tons	21	24	492	497	204	312
Wax, bees'.....pkgs	1,052	848	1,911	1,863	5,142	4,917
"    Japan.....cs, etc.	100	81	314	322	845	594

† Stocks lying at Smith's Wharf, Red Bull Wharf, and Brewer's Quay are not included in this return.

‡ Includes quantity at Red Lion, Bull, and Smith's Wharves; also at the Docks.

## New Books.

*Who's Who*, 1905. 7 $\frac{3}{8}$ ×4 $\frac{7}{8}$ . Pp. 1,796. 7s. 6d. net. (A. & C. Black.) [This new edition contains 17,000 biographies, and has been corrected up to the end of August. It is an indispensable book for all who want to know about public men.]

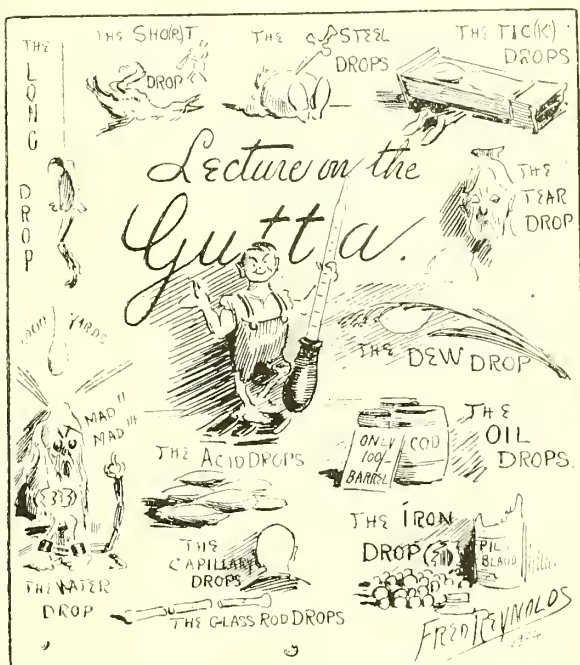
*Who's Who Year-book*, 1905. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  × 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 128. 1s. net. (A. & C. Black.) [Contains a mass of useful tables which were formerly incorporated in "Who's Who." A new feature is a list of medical specialists.]

*Englishwoman's Year-book*, 1905. 7 $\frac{3}{8}$ ×4 $\frac{7}{8}$ . Pp. 368. 2s. 6d. net. (A. & C. Black.) [Gives much information of movements in which women take a leading part—educational, social, and philanthropic.]

Love, J. K. *Diseases of the Ear: For Practitioners and Students of Medicine.* 9 $\frac{7}{8}$  x 7 $\frac{3}{8}$ . Pp. 356 and plates. 25s. net. (Simpkin).

Newman, G. *Bacteriology and Public Health*. 3rd edit.  
9×5 $\frac{7}{8}$ . Pp. 518. 21s. net. (J. Murray.)

Ostwald, W. *Principles of Inorganic Chemistry*. Translated by Alex. Findlay. 9x5½. Pp. 832. 18s. net. (Macmillan).



“Guttæ.”

By Prof. TUNKS, E.B.\*

(Lecturer on Destructive Methods in Pharmacy.)

Now, ladies and gents, pray attention,

For I am about to discourse

On a Latin word—seventh declension—

With which you're acquainted of course.

Which the word I am meaning is "Gutta,"  
Translated in English—"the drop";  
There's the drop makes men crazily mutter  
As down in the head it comes flop.

There's the "long drop" that some say is waiting  
 With a neat little loophole for me;  
 But in course of my brief educating  
 I've had drops that were fearful to see.

The things that have dropped from my fingers,  
The acid drops that I've consumed;  
And the thought most in memory lingers  
Of the Guvnor; how sorely he fumed.

[\* We think the new title is probably a honorific abbreviation of Errand-Boy.—ED.]

"SNAKES."

A MALAY sauntered into a well-known Kuala Lumpur dispensary recently, and produced a live python about 8 feet in length. This he was anxious to dispose of for \$6. The manager being rather busy at the time with a shopful of customers, curtly told the sunburnt man to "get out," and out he got. Shortly afterwards, when the shop was clear, he returned, and again offered the reptile for sale, this time at the modified figure of \$5. After the usual amount of haggling, the snake changed hands for \$2.50, the manager having purchased it with the idea of sending the skin home, accompanied with the usual tale of a hairbreadth escape, etc. After the creature had been scientifically despatched and opened, but before it had been skinned, a wealthy Chinese towkay strolled into the shop, and, after a small amount of bargaining, purchased the still palpitating heart of the snake for \$15. He said that he wanted to use it as medicine for a sick child. Shortly afterwards, still another affluent Celestial happened along, and he cheerfully gave \$5 for the gall-bladder of the reptile. An Indian employé volunteered to remove and cure the skin, provided that, as his sole reward for the trouble, he was allowed to dine upon the remainder. Thus for the small investment of \$2.50 our knight of the pestle and mortar realised \$20 cash and the skin of an 8-foot python.

## Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland

### COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE meeting held at the Society's house, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on Wednesday afternoon, December 7, was neither arduous nor lengthy, the business being chiefly of a routine character. There were present the President (Mr. W. F. Wells), in the chair, the Vice-President (Dr. Walsh), and Messrs. Beggs, Baxter (Coleraine), Vincent Johnston, Smith, and Kelly.

### PROFESSOR TICHBORNE.

The PRESIDENT said he was sure they would all be glad to learn that their colleague Professor Tichborne, who had been ill for the last five or six weeks, was very much better and had been able to correspond with the Registrar. He was sure they all sympathised with him on account of the severe illness which he had undergone.

### FAIRCHILD SCHOLARSHIP AND PRIZES.

The PRESIDENT stated that Messrs. Fairchild Brothers & Foster, of New York, were about to establish a scholarship of 50*l.* to be open to all registered students of pharmacy in the United Kingdom. The examinations for this were to be held in five centres—namely, London, Manchester, Dublin, Edinburgh, and Cardiff. He described the conditions of the competition, one of them, he said, being that the money should be spent in education. This idea, he was sure, commended itself to every member of the Society, and the institution would be a great stimulus to students. It was intended for those who were about to take out their lectures for the licences in Ireland and Great Britain. He (the President) was asked to act on the committee as trustee for Ireland, and he acquiesced at once, as he thought that he should encourage the thing in every way he could. He would be glad if the members of the Council would mention the matter to their assistants and apprentices. He hoped shortly to be in possession of full particulars respecting the examinations, which would be in elementary chemistry, elementary materia medica, practical pharmacy, and prescription-reading and also elementary business knowledge, which would include the Poisons Act.

In reply to a remark from Mr. SMITH the PRESIDENT said that no one would be admitted as a candidate who had not completed the four-years' apprenticeship that was required before entering for the Licence examination.

### THE PHARMACOPEIA COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE.

The PRESIDENT said it was the desire of the Chairman of the Pharmacopœia Committee that the Pharmaceutical Societies of Great Britain and Ireland should join in an appointment of representatives on the Committee of Reference; and he had that morning received a letter from the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain saying that it would be a graceful thing and an evidence of perfect co-operation between the two Societies if their respective Councils simultaneously nominated the following gentlemen to act on the Committee of Reference: Messrs. W. N. Allen, Dublin; F. C. J. Bird, London; J. E. Brunker, Dublin; D. B. Dott, Edinburgh; H. G. Greenish, London; W. Kirkby, Manchester; E. W. Lucas, London; G. F. Merson, Kilmarnock; J. C. Umney, London, Edmund White, London; and R. Wright, Buxton. The Council of the English Society at their meeting that day would adopt the list, and he now moved that it be adopted by that Council.

Mr. Beggs seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

### POISONOUS DIPS.

A letter was received from Mr. Mathew Flanagan, J.P., explaining his views with reference to the sale by unauthorised persons of poisonous dips. This was in reply to a letter sent to the Inspector-General, R.I.C., by this Council.

On the motion of Mr. BAXTER, the President was requested to reply to the letter pointing out the various inaccuracies contained in it.

### RESIGNATION.

A letter was received from Mr. Henry Hunt, a member of the Society, stating that he would be unable to act as

lecturer in materia medica after the end of the present session, and thanking the Council for the confidence they had always placed in him and for the courtesy he had at all times received from them. On the motion of Mr. BEGGS, a resolution was passed accepting Mr. Hunt's resignation with regret, and expressing the Council's appreciation of the manner in which he had conducted his lectures; and on the motion of the VICE-PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. BEGGS, Dr. Ashe, M.P.S.I., F.C.S., L.R.C.S. & P.I., etc., was appointed to the lectureship, to hold the appointment during the pleasure of the Council.

### CARDONAGH PROSECUTION.

A letter was received from the Privy Council enclosing a copy of a memorial which had been addressed to the Lord-Lieutenant by Mr. James McDonagh, J.P., who had been fined 5*l.* at Cardonagh Petty Sessions on November 16 for an unlawful sale of carbolic acid, and also 2*s.* 6*d.* for selling the same in a bottle without a label. The acid was sold in a porter bottle. The memorialist stated that he did not know that he was doing anything wrong in selling the acid. The man to whom he sold it was a sort of horse or cow doctor; and when the man went home his wife unfortunately took some of it, which caused her death. The memorialist had cleared all the carbolic acid out of his shop, and he promised not to offend again. He had pleaded guilty at the sessions. Accompanying the memorial was a recommendation from the Magistrates to reduce the fine to 1*l.*

### NEW MEMBERS

were elected on the motion of Mr. BEGGS, seconded by Mr. BATT: Mr. William Shields, Medical Hall, Downpatrick, and Mr. James McCully Cherry, Crescent, Newtownards. The Council then adjourned.



## Society of Chemical Industry.

Annual Meeting New York September, 1904 under the Presidency of Sir William Ramsay K.C.B. F.R.S.

We, the undersigned members of the Society of Chemical Industry, from across the sea, who have been the guests of the New York Section during the Annual Meeting in New York in September, 1904, desire to place on record our feelings of gratitude to the New York Section for the magnificent reception which has been accorded us, and to assure our Transatlantic brother chemists of our warm esteem and appreciation.

*(Signatures follow)*

The European members of the Society of Chemical Industry who visited the United States presented the committee there with an address. Each of the signatories has unexpectedly received a handsome reproduction of it, the above being a reduced facsimile.



## South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—“The Chemist and Druggist” is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

South African Pharmaceutical Association.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.  
Natal Pharmaceutical Society.  
Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society.  
Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society.  
Northern District Chemists' Association.  
Pharmaceutical Society of Orange River Colony.

### Cape Colony.

**FINED.**—At Cape Town on November 9, Martinus Jacobus Piepers (whose prosecution for practising as a doctor was noted in the *C. & D.*, November 5, page 776) appeared before Mr. Broers, A.R.M. After hearing evidence, the Magistrate imposed a fine of 10/.

THE “CENTRAL PHARMACY,” at 181 Albert Road, Woodstock, occupied by Messrs. Sloan & Davies, chemists, was completely destroyed by fire on the night previous to the departure of the last mail. The premises and stock were insured. Business will be carried on in temporary premises secured opposite. The fire in no way affects the firm's recently opened branch in Victoria Road, Woodstock.

### Natal.

MR. H. G. TYPE has been licensed to practise as a chemist and druggist in the Colony.

MR. G. A. CHAMPTON has been appointed Chairman of the Natal Pharmacy Board, and Mr. C. A. Fawcett Secretary.

**MUTI MENINGA (TOO MUCH MEDICINE).**—As illustrating the peculiar working of the Kaffir mind, the following incident is worth recording: A native woman appeared before the local Magistrate as a witness against her husband, complaining that her dusky helpmate had forced her to swallow the best portion of a bottle of poisonous lotion under the belief that as it was good for the outside it must also be good—if not better—for the inside. Fortunately the bottle was broken during the scuffle. The Magistrate remanded the prisoner so that the nature of the lotion might be inquired into.

### Orange River Colony.

AT KROONSTAD, on November 11, after a long hearing, Albert George Grist, a Government veterinary officer, was fined 10/., or three days' imprisonment, for removing two mules from a farm which had been declared an infected area to Kroonstad. For the defence accused stated that there were ninety-seven mules on the farm and all had been tested with mallein. Three were put back to be re-tested, but the others were free from glanders, and it was two of these that had been brought to Kroonstad.

“BABY MURDER.”—An article in a recent issue of the “Bloemfontein Post,” with this sensational title, has created some resentment among local chemists. The writer, in pointing out the duties of a new Town Council, calls for the municipality to stamp out “an evil thing which largely increases infantile mortality”—the use of patent or proprietary medicines. The ignorant use of powerful drugs, “whose presence is concealed under catch names like ‘pain-killer’ or ‘soothing-syrup,’ is the occasion of many deaths.” Therefore a chemist who retails proprietary medicines containing drugs whose sale is otherwise prohibited or controlled by law should be made liable to a charge of manslaughter. A vigorous reply to this diatribe has been sent to the paper by the Secretary of the Orange River Colony Pharmaceutical Society, but it had not been published when the mail left.

### Transvaal.

THE OUTLOOK.—When the mail left the keenest interest prevailed in pharmaceutical circles on the Rand in the Pharmacy Board election under the new Ordinance which was passed during the last Session of the Legislative Council. The election was to take place on December 6. Pharmaceutical affairs have undoubtedly been in a state of chaos in the Transvaal up to the present, mainly owing to the fact

that there has been no efficient law on the statute-book placing chemists on a satisfactory basis in regard to their craft. With the promulgation of the new law forming the Pharmacy Board, and giving powers to the profession similar to those obtaining in Great Britain, matters have been put on a new footing; and given sufficient energy and support from the rank-and-file in the Colony, the future of the Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society should be a bright one.

A CIRCULAR LETTER has been issued by Mr. A. Macdonald, Hon. Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal, regarding the election of three members to the Pharmacy Board. At a general meeting held in Johannesburg on October 28 the following gentlemen were nominated, and expressed their willingness to stand for election: Messrs. A. A. Bones (Pretoria), R. Butters (Johannesburg), J. H. Dinwoodie (Johannesburg), B. O. Jones (Boksburg), J. R. Jones (Pretoria), and C. Martlew, Alexander Rennie, W. T. Skinn, A. S. Smith, and L. Thomas, all of Johannesburg. Since that meeting Mr. F. Ingram (Braamfontein) has expressed a desire to have his name added to the list of candidates. The letter gives directions and encloses voting-paper. The voting-papers had to be returned to the Under-Secretary, Colonial Secretary's Department, Pretoria, by December 6. It was hoped that the Government nominees might be selected from Pretoria chemists, but the proposed arrangement on this point came to nothing, except a little heartburning.

## East Indian News.

(From our own Correspondent.)

**AMMONIA MISHAP.**—Last month, at the Medical College, Chemical Laboratory, Colombo, Dr. Chalmers was opening some bottles, when the stopper of a bottle of liquor ammon. fort. popped, and some of the liquid got into the eye of the head peon. The unfortunate man was removed to the hospital, but had not recovered the sight of the injured eye when the mail left.

THE ASSAM GOVERNMENT have made a start with tropical plantation on the southern slopes of the Khasi Hills, with a view to the cultivation there and subsequent distribution to the province of certain tropical plants from Southern India and Ceylon. Among the plants being tried are cocoa, cardamom, cinnamon, nutmeg, clove, camphor, citronella, lemongrass, and arrowroot.

MESSRS. CARGILLS, LTD., of Colombo and Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon, have lately moved into new and handsome commodious premises in Colombo. The new building is an imposing structure, and one of the best-fitted-up houses of business in the East. It is entirely self-contained, having its own dynamos and engines for lighting, hydraulic lifts, etc. Beautiful carved work is to be seen at the entrances, staircases, etc., and two large domes with stained glass improve the lighting. The dispensing department is excellently fitted up, and can be shut off from the rest of the establishment for all-night work.

WHOLESALE POISONING.—There has been recently a recrudescence of poisoning in Madras by packets containing sugar and presumably arsenic, in connection with the Thulam religious festival. These packets have been thrown in the thoroughfares through which the temple deities are taken in procession, and those who have picked them up and eaten them have suffered, and, in some cases, have died. Up to the present nineteen cases have occurred in Shiyali, Tanjore, Mayavaram, Andithirai, and Tiruvada Marudur, of which nine have proved fatal. At Quilon Mr. and Mrs. Imray and five of their servants were taken seriously ill with symptoms of arsenic-poisoning. Inquiries seem to show that the illness is due to a native butler recently discharged by Mr. Imray.

CURE FOR SNAKE-BITE IN CEYLON.—Ceylon newspapers record cases of apparent cure from the bite of venomous snakes by the administration of lime-juice internally, and thoroughly rubbing it into the skin of every part of the body, the treatment being repeated at frequent intervals until the patient rallies.

## American Notes.

(From our Correspondent.)

MR. THOMAS VÖGELI, the newly elected President of the N.A.R.D., is a very large and successful retailer in Minneapolis, Minn. In honour of his election, he was recently tendered a banquet by sixty of his friends at the Minneapolis Club.

**FAILED.**—One of the two large wholesale cutters in this country has failed—the Ralph P. Hoagland Drug Co., of Boston. The other cut-rate house is the famous (or infamous) firm of John D. Park & Sons, of Cincinnati, in whose notable case against the National Wholesale Druggists' Association the historic "Park decision" was rendered a year or two ago. The Hoagland Co. fails with liabilities of \$100,000 and assets of about \$75,000.

**THE NEW YORK BOARD OF PHARMACY**, in order not to have the graduation pre-requisite law work any hardship when it goes into effect on January 1, is leniently permitting all candidates to come up for examination during December, whether or not they are able to comply with the age requirement of twenty-one years or the experience requirement of four years. If they succeed in passing, however, their certificate will be withheld until both age and experience requirements have been complied with. Nay, more, if a candidate comes up in December and fails he will be given another trial even after the pre-requisite law has gone into effect.

**A CONFERENCE** was held recently in the capital city of Albany, New York, between the Board of Regents of the State and the Colleges of Pharmacy, for the purpose of establishing certain requirements for colleges under the operations of the pre-requisite law, by which graduates only of those colleges will be recognised which conform to the following standards as the lowest possible minimum: An equipment worth \$500; three regularly installed professors; teaching in the three branches of pharmacy, botany, and materia medica; two years of instruction comprising twenty-five weeks each; and fifteen hours of instruction per week.

**PHARMACISTS NOT LABOURERS.**—The Owl Drug Co., of San Francisco, California, a large cut-rate establishment, has found itself in conflict with the alien contract labour law of the country. It seems that several months ago, when the clerks of the company went on a strike in true labour-union style, a number of registered assistants were employed in Toronto, Canada, with the understanding that they were to receive \$75 a month. The United States District Attorney for California is now after the company for violating the foregoing law, but the defendants think they can escape inasmuch as registered pharmacists must be technically considered as professional men and outside the scope of any labour law.

**THE NATIONAL WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS' ASSOCIATION** met in annual council recently in New Orleans, and pleased the retailers of the country very much by signifying a hearty approval of the direct-contract and serial-numbering plan. Just what action the jobbers would take had been a source of uncertainty for some months previous to the meeting. The wholesalers also passed resolutions favouring all three Alcohol-taxation Bills in the national Congress, one reducing the tax from \$1.20 to 70c. per gal., another providing for a redemption of the tax on export goods, and a third making denatured alcohol free for use in the arts. The Association, on the other hand, refused its support to the Mann Bill providing that patents on medicinal synthetics be not given on the products themselves, but be limited to the processes of manufacture.

**NEW YORK AND N.A.R.D.**—During the six years in which the National Association of Retail Druggists has been in existence at least three efforts have been made to organise Greater New York and establish in that city a uniform schedule of prices on proprietary articles. Every effort has so far failed, but now another and a more vigorous one is about to be made. The N.A.R.D. has established a local office and installed a chief organiser with several assistants. It is thought that the action of the New York jobbers in

approving the adoption of the contract plan by the manufacturers of Peruna and Paine's Celery Compound will make the work easier than it has been in the past, when the jobbers were more or less hostile. Furthermore, the retailers themselves will fall into line much more readily under a contract movement, since it promises much greater success and a better assurance of increased prices.

**MR. BEECHAM INTERVIEWED.**—The irrepressible interviewer has been quizzing Mr. Joseph Beecham, who was in America recently, looking after the prosecution of the alleged pill-counterfeiters. Mr. Beecham was questioned regarding the charge that his pills were masquerading as "made in England," when those on the American market were really made in Brooklyn. "The circular which accompanies my American pills," said Mr. Beecham, "states that they are specially packed for the United States of America, which is strictly true. The pills for the American market are made here in order to save duty, but they differ only in being coated. The English and export trade are supplied with an uncoated pill because the average Englishman takes his medicine straight. American trade demanded a coated pill; the original were uncoated. The wooden boxes used as containers are made here and exported. Americans have perfected the turned wood-box industry. English and other boxes are not nearly so well made, and the covers are not interchangeable; each lid appears to fit only its own base. Besides, the American boxes are cheaper than the home product." Asked about the control of prices in Great Britain and the Colonies, he replied that this was done by means of a "mutual agreement plan by which each chemist in a town agrees to sell the pills at not less than 90 per cent. of the marked price." He does not cut off supplies from the cutter, but "reasons with the offender," and thus gets at the root of the evil.

## Practical Notes and Formulae.

### CLEARING QUININE-WINE.

AFTER filtering add chlorate of potash in the proportion of a grain to the pint. This, according to the "Revue Medico-pharmaceutique," prevents any precipitate from forming on keeping.

### AGAINST INSECT-BITES.

A SATURATED SOLUTION or compressed tablet of sodium bicarbonate is applied to the bite or sting. A 2-per-cent. solution of thymol in 50-per-cent. alcohol, applied to the hands, face, and neck, prevents insects biting.

### INF. DIGITALIS.

M. F. V. DAELS ("Rev. Pharm. des Flandres") states, as a result of recent researches, that, to obtain the maximum quantity of active principles in inf. digitalis, the water should be put on the leaves cold, and then gently raised to the boiling-point, but 60° C. suffices.

### EQUINE MIXTURE.

THE following dispensing query was noted in a recent number of the "Bull. Soc. Pharm.":

Equininae	...	...	...	gr. xv.
Alcohol. (98-per-cent.)	...	...	...	q.s.
Syrupi	...	...	...	3j.
Aq. dest. ad	...	...	...	3iv.

With the addition of 5iv. 3v. of alcohol it was found that the equinine was precipitated on the addition of water, but 4 or 5 grains of citric acid made a perfectly clear mixture.

### THE PISTOIA REMEDIES.

PROFESSOR THOMS, of the Pharmaceutical Institute of Berlin, has organised a department of the Institute to examine proprietary medicines. The powder sold by the Pistoia Monastery, Italy, used as a cure for gout, for a year's treatment with which about two guineas is charged, was found to consist of powdered calumba-root with a small quantity of powdered patchouli-leaves (compare "Pharmaceutical Formulas," Vol. I., page 592). The Pistoia remedy for gall-stones (*Gallensteinmittel*) was next examined, and found to consist of oil of sesame 50 grams, and extractive 120 grams containing in solution magnesium sulphate 10 grams and citric acid 1 gram.—*Apotheker Zeitung*.